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ASEAN Invites Nonmembers To Observe Meeting

OW2905103592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1023 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Manila, May 29 (KYODO)—The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has invited Japan, China, Vietnam, and Laos to send observers to its foreign ministers meeting here in July, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Friday.

Manglapus also said that Laos and Vietnam are expected to sign ASEAN's Treaty of Cooperation and Amity during the July 24-27 conference. ASEAN groups the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei.

The ASEAN countries will also meet with their "dialogue partners," the United States, Canada, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Australia, and the European Community.

Shipowners Seek ASEAN Campaign Against Piracy

BK0706034692 Hong Kong AFP in English 0234 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Singapore, June 7 (AFP)—Regional shipowners exasperated by the failure of governments to stamp out piracy in Association of Southeast Asian (ASEAN) waters have launched a campaign to goad bureaucrats into action.

The Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore have pledged action to combat piracy after a dramatic rise in the number of incidents reported here from three in 1989, to 32 in 1990, and 61 last year. But shipowners are complaining the pledges are just empty words, and in the last week they have issued a flurry of appeals for help.

The problem has also received a growing amount of attention because of fears that oil tankers, a favorite prey of pirates, may run aground with their crews tied up or collide with another vessel, causing an environmental disaster.

Shipping sources here said Thursday that the Manila-based Federation of ASEAN Shipowners Association had urged regional shipowners to write to each of the six ASEAN governments seeking firmer action against pirates.

The Asian Shipowners' Forum, grouping regional associations in South Korea, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, ASEAN, Japan and Australia, wrote to the ASEAN governments May 22 urging immediate action.

The British-based National Union of Maritime Aviation and Shipping Transport, which says 200 attacks have occurred in ASEAN waters over the last five years, sent letters to Malaysian and Indonesian officials expressing concern at the "growing intensity of the violence used against seafarers."

"We are sick and tired of government propaganda from Malaysia and Singapore about increasing their police cooperation," Hong Kong Shipowner's Association director Michael Farlie said in a statement last week. Farlie said there was "no sign that the authorities intend to expose the heart of the problem, nor do they show they have the joint political resolve to deal with it."

Shipowners are hoping the volley of statements will force some action out of ASEAN, which groups Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Brunei.

"With all this publicity it's getting difficult for them to ignore the problem. They have to do something," a European shipowner said.

Pirate attacks are intensifying in ferocity as well as numbers. The Singapore National Shipping Association said it had received reports of 20 incidents in the first quarter of this year, some involving petrol bombs. Efforts to contain the problem are hampered by political sensitivities and jurisdictional concerns, shipowners said. They said another problem was the suspected involvement of local officials.

"It is a well-known fact in Singapore's shipping circles that the attacks were well organised and committed by a small group of poorly paid Indonesian customs officers trying to make ends meet," said a European shipowner who asked not to be identified.

Indonesian officials were not immediately available for comment.

Shipmasters also inadvertently help the pirates by reporting attacks to Singapore although they take place outside the island city-state's waters, industry insiders say.

"We have a situation where Malaysia and Indonesia say there are no pirate attacks in their waters," one shipping official said.

Although no pirate strikes have been reported in Singapore waters, attacks occuring nearby are hurting Singapore's image as the world's premier container port, shipowners say.

Industry analysts say that Singapore, which is in a bind as it tries to win Indonesia's favor to offset cooling relations with Malaysia, is unable to do or even say much unless its big neigbors make a move.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, addressing the ASEAN summit here in January, called for international help in financing efforts to combat piracy.

Japan

Reaction to U.S. Comments on MITI Report

Kozo Watanabe Defends Criticism

OW0906041892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0411 GMT 09 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—International Trade and Industry [MITI] Minister Kozo Watanabe on Tuesday defended his ministry's report accusing the United States of unfair trade practices.

"We only publicized the bare facts," Watanabe told a press conference in commenting on U.S. criticism of the ministry report.

Asked about a U.S contention that Japan has a number of unfair trade practices, Watanabe said, "the United States might be displeased at being told the truth."

Watanabe also said Japan will say what it has to say and do what it has to do from now on in international affairs.

"We are ready to correct mistakes, if any. But it is embarrassing to be told that somebody simply does not like our face," he said.

The U.S. White House on Monday reportedly rejected the Ministry of International Trade and Industry's criticism of U.S. trade policies, saying people who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

Referring to Japan's prominent external trade surplus, Watanabe said Japan must attain the government's projection of 3.5 percent economic growth for this fiscal year to fulfill its international responsibility.

MITI Official Responds 'Coolly'

OW0906115692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—A top Japanese trade official Tuesday responded coolly to U.S. rejection of his ministry's report accusing the United States of unfair trade practices.

"(The U.S. reaction) might be quite emotional," said the official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), on condition of anonymity.

He said he believes the U.S. Government will understand the purpose of the report, compiled by an advisory body to the MITI minister, if they read it through fully.

The official said with surprise, "(the U.S. reaction) was fiercer than expected."

He guessed that the United States was stunned by the criticism from Japan, which has been often held to be unilaterally unfair, just as parents are when a child suddenly turns defiant.

If the U.S. has any objection to specific points of the report, Japan is ready to hear it at an intergovernmental meeting, the official said.

"Frank discussion can produce constructive results," he said.

Earlier the same day, MITI Minister Kozo Watanabe defended the report, saying, "we only laid out the straight facts."

Watanabe said at a press conference Japan will say what it has to say and do what it has to do from now on in international affairs.

He also said, "we are ready to correct mistakes, if any."

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater on Monday reportedly rejected the ministry's criticism of U.S. trade policies, saying, "people who live in glass houses should not throw stones."

Comment on U.S. Steelmakers 'Dumping' Charges

OW0606084992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0811 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Washington, June 6 KYODO—Two U.S. steelmakers will accuse Japanese steelmakers late this month of "dumping" automotive and other steel products on the U.S. market at unfairly low prices, industry sources said Friday.

USX Corp. and another steelmaker will file a petition in late June with the Department of Commerce, accusing Japanese makers of selling automotive sheet steel and seamless steel pipes below U.S. market prices, the sources said.

Bethlehem Steel Corp. and CF and I Steel Corp. recently filed a similar petition alleging that Japanese and European companies sold rail imports in the United States for as much as 80 percent less than they charge their domestic clients.

Under U.S. law, the Department of Commerce must decide within three weeks of receiving the petition whether to launch a dumping investigation.

Japanese steel industry sources said such actions by U.S. companies would hurt Japanese sales in the U.S. as some business negotiations now under way would be terminated.

Tokyo To Reject U.S. Demands To Lower Tariffs

OW0906091392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0816 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—Japan will reject U.S. demands to lower tariffs on processed tomato products such as ketchup and expand import quotas on beans and peanuts, Japanese officials said Tuesday.

Officials from the two countries will discuss the issue at talks in Tokyo as early as next month, but Tokyo will refuse to make such changes because they could seriously affect Japanese farmers, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry officials said.

In bilateral trade talks on agriculture in 1988, Japan agreed to abolish import quotas on processed tomato products while raising the tariff rate on them to 25 percent from 20 percent.

Following the agreement, imports of tomato ketchup increased 34.9 percent to some 5,800 tons in 1989. But since then, import growth has been sluggish, pushing the figure down to some 5,200 tons in 1991.

The 1988 agreement allowed Japan to maintain its 120,000-ton-a-year import quota on miscellaneous beans, but called for increasing the import quota on peanuts to 75,000 tons in fiscal 1990 from 55,000 tons in fiscal 1987.

Washington has been pressing Tokyo to further increase the quota on peanut imports.

Tokyo Plans To Develop Nuclear Fusion Reactor

OW0906064492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0527 GMT 09 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—The government's atomic energy commission announced Tuesday a new basic plan to develop an experimental nuclear fusion reactor as an international project involving Europe, the United States, Japan, and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

The new plan calls for Japan to join in the international nuclear fusion study, as the commission said Japan has already almost achieved its own study of nuclear fusion development.

The commission revised its 1975 basic plan, under which fundamental technology studies have been carried through the Tokamak-type JT-60 test reactor in Ibaraki Prefecture constructed by the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute.

Under the international study project, the four partners in the project will construct a new experimental nuclear fusion reactor, called the "international thermonuclear experimental reactor (INTER)."

The four expect the INTER to start operating around 2005 and the first prototype reactor in the 2020s, before putting it to practical use in the mid-21st century.

A nuclear fusion reactor, if materialized, is expected to produce the ultimate form of energy for humanity, since its energy-generating system is based on nuclear fusion reaction as seen inside the sun.

In a typical fusion reaction, the nuclei of tritium and deuterium are combined at a superhigh temperature to form a nucleus of helium and a free neutron.

Japan, Western Europe, and the U.S. have competed to successfully create the critical plasma condition needed for nuclear fusion, through experiments with test reactors that confine tritium and deuterium in doughnut-shaped vacuum containers.

However, following the U.S.-Soviet summit talks in 1985, the four sides agreed at a meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency in 1988 to cooperate in developing INTER, considering the huge construction cost involved.

The total construction cost will be about 4.9 billion dollars but it has not yet been decided where the experimental reactor will be located.

Broadcasts to Russia, North America To Increase

OW0806092592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0715 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—Japan's public broadcasting corporation NHK will expand and consolidate broadcasts to the Russian Far East and North America in fiscal 1992, a senior Posts and Telecommunications Ministry official said Monday.

Tomoyuki Onozawa, director general of the Broadcast Administration Bureau, said he will seek appropriations for the project in the budget for fiscal 1993, beginning next April 1.

Onozawa said the money will be used to improve equipment for broadcasting to the Russian Far East and extension of broadcasting hours in North America.

He said NHK will start a daily 10-hour broadcast to all of Europe from July 1 under an agreement with British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC). The broadcast will be made in five languages, including English and Japanese.

Tokyo To Help Russia Establish Business Center

OW0806121792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1154 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—Japan agreed Monday to help Russia set up a center for small- and medium-sized businesses in Vladivostok around this autumn, a Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] official said.

The promise came during a meeting in Tokyo between Minister of International Trade and Industry Kozo Watanabe and Valeriy Chernogorodsky, visiting chairman of the Russian Federation State Committee for Antimonopoly Policy and Promotion of New Economic Structures.

Chernogorodsky arrived in Japan on Sunday for a five-day stay.

The Russian official asked for Japan's intellectual and technological support for the center aimed at fostering smaller enterprises, the official said.

Watanabe promised to form a committee to promote cooperation and to provide know-how in running small- and medium-sized companies, he said.

The center, expected to be operated jointly by the Russian Federation, regional states in the Russian Far East and the private sector, is aimed at preparing policies to ensure profitability of smaller enterprises, including the training of managers, he said.

Russia is now working out an economic reform program that will be submitted to the Russian cabinet on Friday next week, he said.

In an effort to create a market economy, Russia is planning to establish small companies and divide large state-run firms to encourage middle-class entrepreneurs.

The planned Japanese committee is expected to have representatives of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Small Business National Corp., the Small and Medium Enterprise Agency, and other related organizations, the official said.

The committee also will send experts for a short visit to Russia, he said.

Fishermen Arrive in Shikotan Without Visas

OW0606135092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1310 GMT 06 Jun 92

[Text] Kushiro, Hokkaido, June 6 KYODO—Three Japanese fishermen entered a port at one of the four disputed Russian-held islands without visas Saturday, and Russian border guards will turn them over to Japan without arresting them, Japanese officials said.

Japanese Maritime Safety Agency officials said the three Japanese arrived in a small fishing boat in Anama Bay on Shikotan island shortly before noon, telling Russian border guards, "we came here because of visa-free arrangements" between Japan and Russia.

The fishermen also reportedly told the Russians they came to Shikotan to visit the Russians they met during their previous visa-free trips to the island.

Japan and Russia allowed visa-free trips by Russians on the disputed islands and former Japanese islanders in April and May. Japan claims the islands, which the former Soviet Union captured at the end of World War II.

Under the arrangements, only former islanders, leaders of the "Return the Northern Territories" campaign, and journalists are allowed to visit the islands without visas.

Russian border guards told Japanese officials they will turn over the Japanese intruders without pressing charges as early as Saturday night.

Fishermen Return From Visit

OW0606180092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1513 GMT 06 Jun 92

[Text] Kushiro, Hokkaido, June 6 KYODO—Three Japanese fishermen returned to a port in Hokkaido Saturday night after reaching one of the four disputed Russian-held islands without visas, maritime safety agency officials said.

They said the three Japanese arrived in a small fishing boat in Anama Bay on Shikotan Island shortly before noon, telling Russian border guards, "We came here because of visa-free arrangements" between Japan and Russia.

The three were identified as Kazuyoshi Takizawa, the 41-year-old skipper of the 4.9-ton No. 83 Sanko-Maru, Eikichi Sarashi, 59, and Hiroshi Nagahora, 26.

Sarashi reportedly said he went to Shikotan to visit the Russians they met when the Russians made a visa-free trip to Hokkaido in April, the officials said. "It's my turn to visit your island," Sarashi was quoted as promising the Russian visitors.

Russian border guards searched the vessel and ordered the fishermen to leave without arresting them, the agency officials said.

Japan and Russia allowed visa-free trips by Russians living on the disputed islands and former Japanese islanders in April and May. Japan claims the islands, which the former Soviet Union captured at the end of World War II.

Under the arrangements, only former islanders, leaders of the "Return the Northern Territories" campaign, and journalists are allowed to visit the islands without visas.

Businessmen Cautioned About Yugoslav Republics

OW0806134892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1320 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—The Foreign Ministry on Monday urged Japanese business community members to refrain from visiting the Yugoslav republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

The ministry already cautioned Japanese tourists against visiting the region last October.

The situation in the two Yugoslav republics has become volatile since the U.N. Security Council imposed economic sanctions aimed at ending their involvement in fighting in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

South Korea's Choe Agrees to Talks on Patents

OW0806162592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1603 GMT 08 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—Visiting South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu agreed Monday to hold talks soon on Japan's demand for protective measures for Japanese patents.

Choe made the pledge in a meeting with Japan's International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe, who asked him for a treatment of Japanese patents similar to preferential treatment for the United States and the European Community (EC).

Choe told Watanabe that South Korea is ready to hold talks with Japan on the issue in July or later.

Under a preferential patent agreement concluded between South Korea and the U.S. In July 1986, patents on medicine manufacturing methods, applied by Americans in South Korea, can be accepted as patents on the medicines themselves.

Such patents granted in the U.S. after January 1980 are subject to protection in South Korea, according to the agreement.

South Korea also gives similar preferential treatment to the EC.

Miyazawa, Indian Counterpart Exchange Greetings

OW0906095992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0858 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and his Indian counterpart P.V. Narasimha Rao exchanged congratulatory messages Tuesday on the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, Foreign Ministry officials said Tuesday.

In his message, Miyazawa told Rao that Japan's ties with India are "now gaining in breadth and depth" and said he looks forward to Rao's scheduled June 22-26 visit to Japan.

Miyazawa hailed the Indian Government for "pursuing a drastic economic liberalization policy in earnest," including considerable reductions of restrictions on the introduction of foreign capital.

As a result, he said, "now, more and more Japanese firms are looking to India for new trade and investment opportunities."

Rao similarly said in his message that opportunities for enhanced cooperation with Japan in terms of investment, trade, and technology transfer have increased significantly as a result of the economic restructuring and reform program.

"I am confident that the anniversary we are celebrating will mark the inauguration of a mutually rewarding economic partnership between our two great countries of Asia," he said.

Both Miyazawa and Rao called for close cooperation in the shaping of the new international order.

India and Japan have similar aspirations for a larger say in post-cold war world affairs and both want to see an expansion of the number of permanent seats on the U.N. Security Council to accommodate themselves.

Conservatives Stay Majority in Okinawa Assembly

OW0806020492 Nana NHK Radio in Japanese 2212 GMT 7 Jun 92

[From the local "NHK News" program]

[Excerpt] In the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly election held yesterday amid the confusion going on in the Diet over the Peacekeeping Operations [PKO] Bill, conservatives centering around the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] mustered a majority, and it has become apparent that the reformist government of Okinawa will be obliged to continue running the government under the difficult condition of being a minority group within the assembly.

The Okinawa Prefectural Assembly election, held on the landmark year of the 20th anniversary of Okinawa's return to Japan, focused on the question of whether the governing party with a minority position in the prefectural assembly would become a majority party, thus overturning the existing power structure, or if the conservatives centering around the LDP would be able to maintain its majority hold on the prefectural assembly.

In the gubernatorial election of 1990, the reformist camp's Mr. Ota won, giving rise to a reformist government, and in the recent assembly election the direction of the promotion and development of Okinawa's industries as well as questions surrounding the U.S. military bases were at issue.

When the Okinawa reformists and conservatives entered the latter half of their campaigns, the Diet in Tokyo was plunged into confusion over the PKO bill. Consequently, the reaction of the Okinawans, who have mixed feelings about the Self-Defense Forces, has been watched with concern.

The voting tally completed on election day shows that out of a total of 48 seats, the opposition camp, centering around the conservative LDP, obtained 27 seats, and the reformist ruling camp 21 seats, thus granting the conservative group a continuation of their majority lead.

In the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly elections, which have been held five times so far, the party controlling the prefectural government has always held a majority in the prectural assembly. In the latest election, the reformist group failed to maintain the momentum gained in the gubernatorial election of 1990. The Ota reformist government will have to continue to run the government under the difficult condition of being a minority group in the assembly. [passage omitted]

Okinawa Development Agency Chief on PKO Bases

OW0706103792 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 5 Jun 92 Evening Edition p 2

[Text] Tokyo—The PKO [peacekeeping operation] bill has been passed at the upper house Special Committee on

International Peace Cooperation in a confused situation. In this connection, Tomoo Ie, director general of the Okinawa Development Agency, made the following remarks at a news conference held after the cabinet meeting on the morning of 5 June: "Thanks to peace, Japan has now become a major economic power. Therefore, it should contribute to PKO activities which are aimed at promoting peace." He also reiterated that "since Japan is a UN member nation, it has the obligation to join (PKO activities) so as to promote UN functions."

Moreover, touching on the fact that Okinawan residents have expressed a growing sense of crisis concerning the PKO bill in connection with various factors such as recent remarks by Yasushi Akashi, [UN deputy secretary general who advocates setting up PKO bases in Okinawa] Director General Ie said: "I have not been informed that Akashi's remarks were an official statement. If he had made these remarks as an official statement and if he had said them without careful consideration and just because U.S. military bases are located in Okinawa, these remarks are certainly inappropriate because they might hurt the feelings of the Okinawa residents." In this way, he softly criticized Mr. Akashi's rather careless remarks.

In stating his personal view about the concerns over a proposal that training bases for PKO activities should be built in Okinawa, Director General Ie said: "At a time when our people are demanding the readjustment and reduction of military bases, it will bring us troubles if various facilities should be brought (into Okinawa)." Thus, he disclosed for the first time his negative approach toward the proposal for turning Okinawa into a PKO base.

Reportage on UN PKO Bill Issue Continues

12,000 Osaka Citizens Rally

OW0806154192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1401 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Osaka, June 8 KYODO—Some 12,000 people rallied Monday at a central Osaka park to protest the imminent Diet passage of a bill that would enable Japanese troops to join United Nations peacekeeping operations abroad.

Shiro Shimoichi, leader of the Osaka Sohyo center, affiliated with the country's largest opposition Social Democratic Party that opposes the bill, said Japan's international contribution should be limited to nonmilitary activities.

"We won't permit Japan to send Self-Defense Forces personnel abroad," Shimoichi said.

After the rally, participants from local trade unions and civic groups demonstrated on the streets for an hour and a half.

Poll: Majority Oppose PKO Bill

OW0806152292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1431 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—A majority of people in major cities oppose the peacekeeping cooperation [PKO] bill, but are also against "ox walk" tactics by some opposition parties to delay its passage in the House of Councillors, according to a poll conducted Monday by KYODO News Service.

The survey showed that 17 of the 30 adults surveyed in Tokyo, Osaka and other big cities are opposed to the bill, which would allow Japan to send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas on U.N. peacekeeping missions.

Ten of the 14 women among the citizens polled said they were against the legislation.

One of the female pollees said if she had a son or daughter who belonged to the SDF, she would not want them to be sent to areas of conflict abroad.

Another said the dispatch of Japanese military personnel overseas reminds her of World War II.

Of those who favor the bill, some said they do not think that those who participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations must be SDF members.

Others said they were opposed to dispatching SDF members abroad but added that Japan needs to contribute to the international community.

The survey also found that more than half of the pollees were against the railroading of the bill through the upper house special committee on international peace and cooperation on Friday.

About the same number of people were against some opposition parties resorting to "ox walk" delaying tactics in which lawmakers move toward the ballot box as slowly as possible.

The largest opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP), Japanese Communist Party (JCP) and Rengo Sangiin have employed the tactics for three straight days in order to delay the passage of the bill in the upper house.

House of Councillors Passes Bill

OW0806170592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1700 GMT 08 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—The House of Councillors early Tuesday approved a historic bill that would for the first time enable Japan to send military personnel to United Nations peacekeeping missions in such trouble spots as Cambodia.

The vote came after the Social Democratic Party [SDP], the nation's largest opposition party, moderated its "ox walk" delaying tactic to express its opposition to the bill and allowed the chamber to send the bill to the more powerful House of Representatives for enactment.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party joined forces with two centrist parties to win the bill's passage despite warnings from the SDP, the Japanese Communist Party and the union-oriented Rengo Sangiin that the bill could direct Japan again toward a militaristic path.

Details of Bill's Passage Noted

OW0806174192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1726 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—With the largest opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) moderating its delaying tactics, the opposition-dominated House of Councillors passed a United Nations peacekeeping cooperation bill in the early hours Tuesday.

The upper house immediately returned the amended bill to the more powerful House of Representatives, which had passed the original bill last December. The bill passed by 137 votes to 102 after 1 hour and 40 minutes of voting.

The bill, which clears the way for Japan to send the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel into a trouble spot abroad for the first time since the end of World War II, is likely to become law during the current Diet session which is to end on June 21, Diet sources said.

Cambodia is anxiously waiting for Japan to send troops and civilians to help rebuild the war-ravaged country.

The United States also supports Japanese involvement in peacekeeping and peacemaking endeavors in Cambodia and other trouble spots, although some officials in China, South Korea and other Asian countries are worried that the peacekeeping law may signal a revival of a militarily strong Japan.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) won the support of two centrist opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), to pass the bill in the upper house.

The three parties, which jointly submitted the revised bill last week, hold 143 seats in the 252-seat upper house, well above a simple majority.

With two seats vacant and 11 legislators absent, 239 cast their ballots in the upper house plenary session which resumed shortly after Monday midnight.

The SDP and members of the opposition party Rengo Sangiin moderated the "ox walk" go-slow tactics they had employed for three consecutive days.

The SDP members took about 14 minutes to finish the voting, and the 13-member Rengo Sangiin about one minute. The LDP, Komeito and DSP finished voting in 15 minutes.

The Japanese Communist Party (JCP), however, continued to use the tactic, which requires each member to go as slowly as possible to the voting box. The 14 JCP members took 1 hour and 20 minutes to cast their no votes.

Upper house President Yuji Osada repeatedly urged the "ox-walking" communists to "move forward" to the balloting box.

The SDP, JCP and Rengo Sangiin had employed the delaying tactic for three nights in a row starting Friday to protest the bill being rammed through the house's special committee on international peace and cooperation on Friday.

On Monday night, the SDP decided to stop using the tactic after at least three SDP lawmakers in the upper house fell ill because of doing the party-mandated "ox-walk" in the last few days.

An SDP leader said the party accomplished its primary objective of protesting the legislation.

Rengo Sangiin also agreed to upper house President Osada's call for orderly and smooth voting.

Earlier Monday afternoon, the upper house plenary session voted 136-99 to kill a motion denouncing Shin-ichiro Shimojo, chairman of the special committee after a record 13-hour Diet voting session.

The motion, filed by the SDP, was the third in a series of eight filibuster measures the party employed after the special committee passed the bill despite angry protests from opponents.

The previous record for voting on a single item in the Diet was 11 hours and 29 minutes set Saturday in a session that voted down a no-confidence motion against Takashi Inoue, chairman of the upper house steering committee.

The U.N. Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill was introduced following international criticism against Japan for its failure to send troops to the U.S.-led multinational alliance in the Persian Gulf war.

The government originally submitted a bill to the Diet in September 1991 and it has been deliberated in three Diet sessions since then.

The LDP, Komeito and DSP amended the bill last week to require prior Diet approval when sending the SDF overseas, saying both chambers of the Diet "must make efforts to vote within seven days" on deployments.

The only overseas deployment of Japanese troops since World War II has been an SDF minesweeping task force sent to the Persian Gulf last year.

The bill permits up to 2,000 troops to be sent overseas in response to a U.N. request for a deployment, and would allow the SDF to engage in such activities as disarming rival factions that have agreed on a truce and monitoring elections and cease-fires.

The bill also includes a ban on SDF participation in operations that might involve military action. To lift the ban, new legislation is required.

The bill must also be reviewed three years after its enactment.

The SDP, JCP and Rengo Sangiin have argued that the bill tramples on the spirit of Japan's postwar Constitution, which renounces the use of force to settle international disputes.

'Highlights' of Bill Listed

OW0806174792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1731 GMT 08 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—The following are the highlights, as provided by the Foreign Ministry, of the United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill which was passed early Tuesday morning by the House of Councillors.

1. The bill will enable Japan to take part in United Nations peacekeeping operations in the following areas:

A. Monitoring cease-fire agreements.
B. Assignment in buffer zones and providing surveillance.
C. Checking incoming/outgoing arms and munitions.
D. Collecting and disposing of arms which are abandoned.
E. Helping set up cease-fire lines.
F. Assisting in exchanges of prisoners of war.
G. Monitoring elections.
H. Assisting and monitoring local police.
I. Providing aid in civil administration areas.
J. Providing medical care.
K. Searching for and rescuing refugees.
L. Providing refugees with food, clothing and medical care, etc.
M. Setting up shelters for refugees.
N. Repairing, constructing basic life-supporting facilities.
O. Assisting in removal of contamination and other damage to the natural environment.
P. Providing transport and communication facilities, storing materials, doing construction of all sorts and providing machines and equipment.

2. These peacekeeping operation cooperation activities will be carried out by:

A-F .... Self-Defense Forces (SDF)
- troop activities.
- individual officers joining military observer missions.
G-I .... Recruits from local police and government agencies.
J-P .... SDF troops and Maritime Safety Agency (MSA).

3. These activities will be carried out only when:

A. There is a cease-fire agreement between warring parties.
B. There is an agreement by the parties in conflicts to have Japan participate in the peacekeeping operations.
C. There is an assurance peacekeeping operations will maintain impartiality.
D. There is a possibility of suspending the operation temporarily should any of the above three conditions cease to exist.

4. SDF personnel will carry light weapons similar to those carried by other peacekeeping operations participants. They can use them strictly for self-defense.

5. Amendments will:
A. Freeze A-F activities for some time to come until new legislation permitting them is enacted. All the other activities will be started once the bill is in force.
B. Require the government to seek prior Diet approval each time it plans to take part in A-F activities. No Diet approval is needed for all the other activities.

Miyazawa Vows Enactment Efforts

OW0806232792 Tokyo KYODO in English 2312 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa pledged early Tuesday morning to do his best to secure the passage through the House of Representatives of a bill to enable Self-Defense Forces personnel to join UN peacekeeping operations.

Miyazawa made the pledge at a meeting of House of Councillors members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) shortly after the upper house passed the bill.

He told them, "we were able to achieve success without losing unity with the friendly Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party to the end."

Support from two centrist opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party, enabled the LDP to get the bill passed by the opposition-controlled upper house.

In a meeting with reporters, Miyazawa dismissed the possibility of the dissolution of the lower house, saying he does not think there is the need to ask for the people's judgment about the bill because the Diet has already discussed it sufficiently.

He also said there is no need to extend the current Diet session, due to end June 21, to pass the bill.

The bill has to be sent back to the more powerful lower house, which passed the original version of it in December, because of amendments made by the upper house.

Sadao Yamahana, secretary general of the main opposition Social Democratic Party, said, "it is regrettable that such a grave bill was passed by the three parties despite the lack of consensus among the people and the strong opposition of the largest opposition party." He said his party will press for the bill to be scrapped.

Initial Plenary Session Bypassed

OW0906093492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0903 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—The House of Representatives steering committee on Tuesday decided to bypass a plenary session of the lower house in favor of launching directly into committee discussion of the U.N. peacekeeping cooperation bill which cleared the upper house in the early hours of Tuesday, officials said.

However, it remains unclear when the lower house's special committee on international peace and cooperation will actually start deliberations on the bill.

The steering committee voted to approve a proposal to skip the initial explanation of the amended peace cooperation bill in a plenary session, amid angry protests from opponents and a shoving match with Diet security guards.

The security guards blocked opposition legislators from taking a memo on vote-calling procedure away from Steering Committee Chairman Keisuke Nakanishi.

A majority vote by the Liberal Democratic Party, Komeito and Democratic Socialist Party approved the motion on skipping the initial plenary session.

The three parties urged opponents of the bill to agree to send it immediately to the lower house panel for a speedy vote.

Both the panel and the full house are under the LDP's control. The governing party has a commanding majority of 278 legislators in the 512-member lower chamber.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), which voted against the bill, remained adamant in demanding the initial explanation, saying the LDP, Komeito and DSP must clarify the meaning of what the SDP and JCP see as the ambiguous wording of the "serious amendment" to the original government-proposed bill.

Political sources say the demand by the SDP and JCP represents another delaying tactic designed to block the bill from clearing a lower house plenary session before the June 21 deadline. The current 150-day ordinary session of the Diet ends on that day.

The JSP and JCP had earlier forced three days' delay in voting procedures before passage of the bill through the upper chamber by adopting an "ox-walk" filibustering ploy that transformed an average six-meter walk from the legislators' seats to the ballot box into a 50-minute effort.

Some members of the minor opposition group Rengo Sangiin joined the social democrats and communists in the delaying tactics.

The amendment in question subjects to parliamentary approval any overseas deployment of the country's Self-Defense Forces to join in U.N. peacekeeping forces, but mandates that both chambers of the Diet "make efforts to vote within seven days" after the prime minister requests such a deployment.

The SDP opposed the seven-day clause as placing an "unjustifiable limitation on the legislature."

Earlier on Tuesday, the LDP, Komeito and DSP agreed to start deliberation of the amended bill by the lower house's special committee by Wednesday, officials said.

The three parties also agreed to call a vote on the bill Thursday before (?bringing) it to a final vote at a lower house plenary session on Friday, they said.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, speaking at a meeting with reporters in the Diet building, vowed to make "utmost efforts" to have the amended bill passed by the lower house.

Miyazawa ruled out the possibility of dissolution of the lower house, saying, "I don't believe there is a need to ask the public to hand down their judgment on the bill as the Diet has debated it in several sessions."

SDP Secretary General Sadao Yamahana told reporters, however, "we will have this bill scrapped by calling public attention, through deliberations in the House of Representatives, to the defects and contradictions included in the bill."

The new legislation would permit up to 2,000 troops to be sent overseas in response to a U.N. request for such a deployment.

But another piece of legislation would be required to allow SDF personnel to actually join U.N. peacekeeping forces.

Kato Explains Bill to Committee

OW0906124892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 (KYODO)—Overruling two opposition parties' objection, Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato on Tuesday explained to a special Diet committee the reasoning behind a bill that will enable Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to join United Nations peacekeeping operations overseas.

Kato made the explanation to the committee after the House of Representatives Steering Committee decided to bypass a lower house plenary session in favor of launching directly into committee deliberations on the bill, ruling party official said.

The bill was approved by the House of Councillors early Tuesday morning and must go back to the lower house because it has been modified.

The Steering Committee approved a proposal to skip an initial explanation of the revised bill in a plenary session, despite angry protests from Japan's largest opposition Social Democratic Party (SDPJ) and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP).

The SDP and the JCP have claimed a plenary session should deliberate on the bill prior to the special committee in accordance with Diet procedures.

The governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) called on their opponents to agree to send the bill immediately to the lower house's special committee for a speedy vote as the 150-day current Diet session is scheduled to end June 21.

SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe said the party will make every effort to have the bill killed by delaying its passage beyond the end of the Diet session.

Tanabe said the SDP is not afraid of a dissolution of the lower house if the government decides to seek approval of the bill from the people through general elections.

The LDP is determined to force the bill through the lower house before the session ends, the officials said.

The LDP hopes the committee will begin a meeting Wednesday for questions and answers on the bill and vote on it Thursday, they said.

They envision a plenary session vote on the bill Friday.

On June 16-19, the lower house will turn to political reforms, the officials said.

Foreign Minister Undergoes Gallstone Operation

OW0906092692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0913 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe underwent surgery Tuesday to remove gallstones from the bile duct of his gallbladder, doctors said Tuesday.

The operation at Tokyo Women's Medical College Hospital took about two hours, the doctors said.

On Monday, Watanabe, 68, reportedly told Takashi Fukaya, a legislator of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) who belongs to an intra-party faction headed by Watanabe, by telephone that his life was not in any danger.

Watanabe, who placed second in last November's LDP presidential race, has been widely viewed as the most likely successor to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Watanabe was hospitalized May 31 after complaining of abdominal pains.

Most LDP legislators and political analysts do not believe Watanabe will be able to attend the July 6-8 summit of the Group of Seven industrial countries in Munich, as he is expected to take at least one month to recover from the surgery.

'Unlikely' To Attend Jul Summit

OW0906121892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe is unlikely to attend next month's summit meeting of major economic powers since he underwent surgery Tuesday to remove gallstones, political sources said.

At a news conference, Ihei Ochi, secretary general of Watanabe's faction within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), quoted a doctor as saying that it will take the foreign minister a month before he gets back to a normal life.

The sources said that with Tuesday's operation, there is little chance of Watanabe attending the July 6-8 Munich Summit of Group of Seven industrialized nations.

The operation at Tokyo Women's Medical College Hospital, which started at 9:30 A.M. and lasted for about two and a half hours. [as received]

Ochi quoted Yoshimi Watanabe, secretary and son of the foreign minister, as saying that doctors removed one gallstone from Watanabe's gallbladder and two from his bile duct.

Professor Fujio Hanyu, who performed the operation, said Watanabe has been in pretty good shape, with nothing abnormal except the gallstones infection, Ochi said.

The gallstones were about one centimeter in diameter, Ochi quoted Hanyu as saying.

Watanabe, 68, was admitted to the hospital on May 31 after complaining of abdominal pains.

Ochi said it appears impossible for Watanabe to attend the Munich Summit, since he would have to meet in advance with the foreign ministers of nations concerned.

Watanabe, who has been doubling as deputy prime minister and foreign minister since November last year, is believed to be the most likely figure to succeed Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Last fall, he lost to Miyazawa in a contest for the LDP presidency, a position which automatically assures the post of prime minister because of the LDP's stength in the Diet.

On Monday, Miyazawa said he intends to continue serving as acting foreign minister until after the election for the House of Councillors planned for late July.

Miyazawa made the remark after his visit to Watanabe at the hospital Monday morning.

LDP Endorses Partial Diet Reallocation Policy

OW0906092992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—The governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) officially endorsed as its new policy Tuesday a partial seat reallocation plan for the House of Representatives, party officials said.

The party's decision-making Executive Council approved the plan, proposed by Prime Minister and LDP President Kiichi Miyazawa, which calls for the insertion of one seat in each of nine overpopulated constituencies as well as a one-seat reduction in each of 10 depopulated districts.

If the plan was enacted, it would reduce the total number of seats of the lower house from 512 to 511.

Officials said some council members voiced opposition to the proposal approved during the two-hour meeting.

The measure is designed to reduce the maximum disparity between the value of votes in the most-populated and the least-populated lower house constituencies to 2.27-to-1 from the present 3.34-to-1.

The Supreme Court ruled that a vote-value disparity of more than 3-to-1 is unconstitutional on the grounds that such an imbalance runs counter to the principle of equality of citizens.

Kato Denies Renewed Kyowa Scandal Allegations

OW0806053992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0508 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—New revelations surfaced Monday suggesting that chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato received a 10 million yen political contribution in 1990 from the defunct steel frame manufacturer Kyowa Co.

Kato's name appears on a list Kyowa submitted to bankruptcy trustees as a recipient of a 10 million yen political contribution for the 1990 general election, in which the chief cabinet secretary ran in Yamagata Prefecture's No. 2 district, informed sources said.

In the list of money recipients submitted to the bankruptcy trustees, Moriguchi noted that Kyowa's vice president, Goro Moriguchi, handed over a 10 million yen political contribution to Kato at the Century Hyatt Hotel in Shinjuku on February 1990.

Kato denied the allegations Monday, as he did before in a House of Councillors budget committee meeting in March, saying he was not in Tokyo in February 1990 when the money was allegedly handed to him.

Kato reiterated that he had not met Moriguchi then "or on any other day."

"At the time I was supposed to have received the money, I was traveling in Kyushu and Shikoku in support of House of Representatives election candidates, and was not in Tokyo," Kato told reporters.

He added, however, that because the revelation was made by such people in a public position as bankruptcy trustees he wanted to take a couple of days to look into the facts of the matter.

Kyowa is at the center of a bribery scandal involving former state minister Fumio Abe, a one-time political ally of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. Prosecutors charged Abe with taking 90 million yen in bribes from the company's former vice president, Moriguchi.

According to the sources, at the time Kyowa was declared bankrupt it had a balance of 2.18 billion yen which Moriguchi had distributed to more than 30 individuals and organizations as loans and in other unidentified ways.

Ministry To Delay City Banks' Securities Entry

OW0406104092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0952 GMT 04 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance (MOF) will delay giving permission for major commercial banks to enter the securities businesses until 6 to 12 months after long-term credit banks enter the market, sources at the MOF said Thursday.

The move is meant to avoid creating "excessive competition" in the securities industries, and also to give long-term credit banks a grace period to entrench themselves against expected tough competition from the banking giants, the sources explained.

The MOF plans to give the go-ahead to the long-term credit banks, like the Industrial Bank of Japan and the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, to start securities operations through their subsidiaries in April 1993.

The so-called city banks will have to wait six to 12 months more to enter the business, the sources said.

The financial reform bills, which are expected to pass the current Diet session, would change the law to allow banks and securities firms to enter each other's fields via subsidiaries.

But the MOF has decided that long-term credit banks, which have a far smaller number of outlets than city banks, should be given an early start, the sources said.

Because of MOF restrictions, the three long-term credit banks each have about 20 to 30 domestic outlets, while large city banks have several hundred.

The MOF's advisory council on financial reform last June recommended that the discrepancy in the numbers of outlets should be considered when the MOF gives permission to banks to enter the securities business.

If the financial reform bills pass the current Diet session, as the Finance Ministry expects, and the revisions of the law begin to take effect in January, banks wishing to engage in securities businesses will have to obtain licenses for their subsidiaries and seek the ministry's permission to hold the stocks in the subsidiaries.

The ministry will delay giving the city banks permission for six to 12 months after granting it to the long-term credit banks, probably in April, the sources said.

The Industrial Bank of Japan and the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan are already preparing to establish securities subsidiaries.

Banking analysts said the move also reflects the shaky condition of the Tokyo stock market.

"I think it is a reflection of the present weak state of the market ... And the lukewarm attitude of banks to become involved in the securities market right now," said J. Brian Waterhouse, a financial analyst at James Capel Pacific Ltd.

"Given the state of the market and the costs of preparing for this, I don't think many (city) banks will be very sorry for the delay," he said.

Whether the entry of city banks into long-term financing as well as securities businesses will seriously threaten the long-term credit banks depends on what the city banks will be allowed to do, he said.

For example, Waterhouse predicted that if subsidiaries of such city banks as Mitsubishi, Sanwa, and Sumitomo were allowed to underwrite commercial paper, they would be "very powerful" competitors for the Industrial Bank of Japan and Nomura and Daiwa securities companies.

Waterhouse said the long-term credit banks, whose business future is in some question, are more eager than city banks to enter the securities industry.

"They are looking to the future and considering which direction they should go," he said. "I think they would like to become a kind of U.S.-style investment bank, so this would be a natural development for them."

Economic 'Uncertainty' Leads to Recruitment Cuts

OW0606084692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 06 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 6 KYODO—Major Japanese companies plan to sharply cut their recruitment from universities and high schools next spring due to uncertainty over the country's economy, a survey found Saturday.

Of the 150 major companies responding to the survey conducted by KYODO News Service, 95 said they plan to reduce their hiring of university and high school graduates because of deteriorating corporate earnings position.

The 78 companies that have completed their recruiting plans reported an average 21 percent drop from year-earlier levels.

Conspicuous among those planning to cut recruitment were major brokerages, stung by heavy losses in the 1991 business year ended March 31, following scandals over compensating favored clients for investment losses and ties to the underworld.

Yamaichi Securities Co. said it plans to recruit fewer than half the 1,400 graduates it hired this year. Nikko, Daiwa, and new Japan securities companies said they will slash recruitment 18 percent to 37 percent.

Although giant Nomura Securities Co. said it has not completed its recruitment plans, financial sources predicted the world's biggest brokerage would cut back considerably.

Majaor Japanese commercial banks, which have not announced plans for next year, are expected to reduce new employment by some 10 percent, the survey said.

Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) will curb recruitment to 1,000 from this year's 2,600 because of a profit plunge caused by a sharp drop in charges for long-distance calls, the KYODO survey found.

Sony Corp. plans to recruit some 40 percent fewer graduates, reflecting slumping sales of semiconductors and audio-visual equipment. Most other electronics makers plan double-digit cuts in recruitment, according to the survey.

Automakers also plan to cut back, with Toyota Motor Corp., Nissan Motor Co., and Honda Motor Co. all expecting to recruit 10 percent fewer graduates.

Camera maker Nikon Corp. and ceramics maker Kyocera Corp. will slash recruitment 60 percent to 70 percent, the survey found. Shimizu Corp. and other leading general contractors plan to cut back nearly 20 percent amid "the real estate recession," it said.

In contrast, reflecting a growing trend toward eating out, restaurant chains Skylark Co. and Mcdonald's Co. (Japan) said they will expand recruitment.

Nippon Yusen K.K., a major Japanese shipping company, said it plans to hire 40 percent more graduates next year.

Japan Tobacco Inc. and video game maker Nintendo Co. plan to boost hiring around 20 percent each, the survey said.

Dai-Ichi Mutual Life Insurance Co., Komatsu Ltd., Marubeni Corp., and Nippon Express Co. plan to recruit the same number of graduates next year, indifferent to the economic slowdown, the survey found. h1

Mizuhara Named To Head Stock Trading Watchdog

OW0806064592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0610 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—The chief of the Nagoya high public prosecutors office, Toshihiro Mizuhara, has been named to head a new watchdog body to oversee stock trading, Finance Ministry officials said Monday.

The officials said the appointment of Mizuhara as head of the quasi-independent new commission will become formal following endorsement by the Diet.

They said the Finance Ministry plans to establish the three-member commission on July 7.

The Diet has already passed a bill to create the commission, which is primarily intended to monitor operations of brokerage houses to prevent insider trading, stock manipulation, and other irregularities.

The legislation was formulated by the Finance Ministry earlier this year after the Japanese financial markets were rocked by a series of scandals, including payouts to select clients by brokerage houses to compensate for investment losses.

Mizuhara, 61, a graduate of Tokyo's Chuo University, was installed in his present post last December.

He began his career as a public prosecutor in 1955 and has since served as chief of the Yokohama District public prosecutors office and as head of the Sendai high prosecutors office.

The two other members of the commission will be selected from the administrative and academic fields, the officials said.

More Discipline in Financial Business Urged

OW0806134992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1214 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—The Bank of Japan on Monday called for more self discipline in the Japanese financial industry and improvements to the overall financial system.

In [words indistinct] on economic and financial conditions, the central bank pointed out the Japanese financial system, which it says is in a major transition period, has a great many problems to solve, as demonstrated by the financial scandals that grabbed headlines last year.

Solving the problems requires higher discipline among the financial market players and a serious reform of the entire system itself, it said.

The report for fiscal 1991 said the year, which ended March 31, was marked by further liberalization of the domestic financial market as well as by the series of scandals involving many Japanese financial institutions.

The scandals led financial institutions to tighten lending and to streamline operations through mergers and other means, it said.

The Japanese economy, meanwhile, experienced in fiscal 1991 an "adjustment phase after years of rapid growth," the report said.

The economy during the year was characterized by a stock market adjustment after the drastic buildup in the preceding four years, continued tightness in the labor market, and a sharp decline of the value of such assets as land and stocks.

The report argued the plunge in asset values so far has not had a significant recognizable effect on the real economy.

It said, however, the fall of asset prices left a psychological effect on business confidence and in management sentiment about corporate financing and the real estate businesses.

Survey Shows 1992 Capital Spending Forecast Down

OW0806064992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0624 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—Japanese corporate capital spending is projected to drop 2.6 percent in the current fiscal year, the first annual decline in five years, a survey showed Monday.

Excluding electric, gas, and other utilities, the KYODO News Service survey found, investment in plant and equipment would fall 4.0 percent.

The 100 major companies surveyed reported plans for 12,982.4 billion yen in capital spending in the year started April 1. Sixty-four companies said their spending would decrease from the previous fiscal year, 28 said they will increase spending, and eight said spending will level off from the previous year.

Similar indications, including government studies, of sluggish capital spending have prompted analysts to predict that industries will step up calls for the government to stimulate the economy.

Many companies said they will continue investments that help cut costs and boost competitiveness, but most remained cautious on spending to boost production.

Shipbuilding, transportation, and electric power companies plan to raise capital spending, while companies in the pulp and paper industry expect to spend an average 33.5 percent less, petroleum 34.5 percent less, and chemical 25.6 percent less.

Among steel manufacturers, Kawasaki Steel Corp. plans to cut investment 6.3 percent and Kobe Steel Ltd. 5.9 percent.

Nippon Steel Corp. will maintain last year's level, while NKK Corp. expects to boost capital spending 80.2 percent, as fiscal 1992 is the peak year of its three-year project aimed at beefing up facilities to produce high-grade steel.

Minister Hata Eyes Austere Budget for FY 1993

OW0906023392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0219 GMT 09 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata said Tuesday the government will continue its belt-tightening efforts for the fiscal 1993 budget amid a revenue squeeze.

Hata told a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting that fiscal conditions remain tight.

Asked about the "ceiling" on ministries' budgetary requests, Hata said, "we will decide that after examining the latest tax revenue conditions but we are not in an easy position."

"The point is to restrict expenditures," he said.

The Finance Ministry is expected to set the ceiling on the ministries' requests for appropriations by the end of June. Such requests are submitted to the Finance Ministry in August every year.

Hata said the Finance Ministry, in consultation with the other ministries, should give a clear order of priority to the outlays.

He said the appropriations for boosting the quality of life, environmental protection, and assistance to economic reforms in the former communist countries should be given high priority.

Hata showed concern about the fact that the weak stock market has virtually halted corporate increase of capital through issuing new shares at market prices.

If the current state of affairs continues for long, he said, the Japanese market will be viewed as not functioning well.

The Finance Minister, however, did not suggest any steps to help boost the issue of stocks.

He also said at the press conference that senior officials of various ministries will meet Thursday to assess the progress in implementation of the front-loading of public works projects for fiscal 1992.

The results of the meeting will be reported to the cabinet meeting Friday, he said.

The officials will examine how much of the planned public works spending for the fiscal 1992 has already been put to work, Hata said.

The government, in an economic stimulus package announced March 31, decided to implement 75 percent of the public works spending for fiscal 1992 in the first six months of the year, which began April 1.

Concern has emerged that the tight labor market in the construction industry is hampering the implementation of the public works projects.

Panel Urges More Transparent Realty Business

OW0906024392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0154 GMT 09 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—A government panel Tuesday urged the government to take steps to eradicate unclear facets of the real estate business and to restore the public trust in the sector, badly battered by the collapse of the "bubble" economy.

The study group of the construction ministry said the government needs to establish standardized rules for the property rental business to replace traditional systems that are often vague and set at random by property owners.

It cited strong doubts about the legitimacy of such systems as deposits and nonreturnable payments, locally known as "shikikin" and "reikin," respectively, paid by renters to property owners.

The amounts of such payments vary from area to area, ranging from the equivalent of one month's rent to 10 months'.

The proposed clearer rules are aimed at avoiding possible trouble between owners and renters in the market, which is expected to nearly double to 45.24 trillion yen in 2000 from 1990's 28.88 trillion yen in terms of sales.

The panel also called on the government to encourage real estate deals to be conducted at appropriate market prices by beefing up its existing system for checking real estate transactions.

The panel's recommendations take into account the unclear pricing of property in Japan, which causes public distrust of the real estate business, especially since the bursting of the economic bubble spawned by soaring land and stock prices in the 1980s.

Ishizuka Appointed New ASDF Chief of Staff

OW0906004992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0029 GMT 09 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—The cabinet Tuesday endorsed the appointment of Isao Ishizuka as chief of staff of the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF), government officials said.

The cabinet meeting also approved other personnel changes in the Self-Defense Forces that were reported by Defense Agency Director General Sohei Miyashita.

Ishizuka, 55, has been the commander of the Air Defense Command since July last year.

Illegal Foreign Workers at Record High in 1991

OW0706101692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0850 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 7 KYODO—The number of foreigners working illegally in Japan surpassed 30,000 in 1991 for the first time ever, according to a government survey released Sunday.

The survey, compiled by the Justice Ministry, said that authorities detected 32,908 illegal foreign workers in Japan in 1991, about 2.5 times as many as in 1987.

The illegal foreign workers accounted for about 90 percent of the 35,903 people who violated the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Law, the survey said.

By nationality, South Koreans made up the largest group with 9,782 persons, up 76.8 percent from the previous year, followed by Iranians with 7,700, up 11.8 percent, and Malaysians with 4,855, up 8.7 percent, the survey said.

The illegal workers came from about 75 different countries in 1991, compared with 58 countries in the previous 1990 survey, the survey said, adding that the numbers of illegal workers from Africa and Central and South America also increased in 1991.

But the number of illegal Pakistani and Bangladesh workers dropped 80-90 percent in 1991 from a year before, the survey said.

The ministry estimated 216,399 foreigners were staying illegally in Japan as of November 1, 1991, up 56,571 or 35.4 percent from a half-year before.

The estimated illegal residents included 145,700 men, or 67.3 percent, and 70,699 women, or 32.7 percent.

The ministry estimated 32,751 Thais stayed illegally in Japan between May 1 and November 1 last year, accounting for 15.1 percent of the total number of illegal foreign residents.

South Koreans numbered 30,976, or 14.3 percent, followed by Filipinos at 29,620, or 13.7 percent, the ministry said.

Draft Proposal on Foreign Trainees Compiled

OW0906142692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1404 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—A ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) panel has recommended that foreigners be allowed to gain work experiences in Japan for up to two years following a certain period of vocational training, LDP officials said Tuesday.

The party's committee on foreign workers said in its draft proposal, however, that Japan should continue its ban on unskilled foreign laborers, the officials said.

The proposal will be submitted to the government if it is endorsed by the party's policy deliberation commission and general affairs bureau, the officials said.

The draft proposal calls on the government to set up a system to provide foreigners with vocational training at special centers first. Foreign trainees deemed to have reached a certain standard at the end of training, they will continue on-the-job training at Japanese companies under formal employment contracts, according to the proposal. [sentence as received]

The proposal, however, sets the maximum period of the on-the-job training at two years.

The panel, chaired by the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council Chairman Toshiro Mori, also recommends that companies contribute money to a government-sponsored fund to ensure that foreign trainees are able to return home once their apprenticeships end.

The government should also ease restrictions on the ability of trainees to work for small and medium-sized firms, it said.

The proposal sprang from a report submitted by the National Council on Administrative Reform to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Average Higher Fuel Efficiency Goal by 2000 Set

OW0406125792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 04 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 4 KYODO—A government panel on Thursday set a new fuel efficiency target for passenger cars to reduce fuel use by an average of 8.5 percent by the year 2000, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) officials.

After 10 rounds of study since December 1990, the Committee on Improving Vehicle Energy Consumption Efficiency, which is under MITI and the Transport Ministry, worked out targets for kilometers per liter of gasoline that will apply both to domestic vehicles and imports.

Gasoline-run passenger cars, which consumed 35 percent of the fuel used by all vehicles in fiscal 1990, have met the previous efficiency targets set in fiscal 1979, they said.

The average efficiency, however, has gradually deteriorated since fiscal 1982, partly due to the popularity of larger cars.

In addition, the government decided greater fuel efficiency was needed, as well as improved auto safety and lowered pollution emissions, the officials said.

According to the new target, by 2000, vehicles with 1500 cc [cubic centimeter] engine displacements, like Corolla and Sunny models, are to get 16.3 kilometers from a liter of gasoline, up 7.2 percent from fiscal 1990.

Those with engine displacements of 2000 cc or more, such as Crown and Cedric models, should go 9.1 kilometers per liter, up 9.5 percent.

The new targets are provoking a sense of crisis in the auto industry, industry sources said.

The sources quoted Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association Chairman Yutaka Kume as saying, "(The new) standard is very severe."

Although there are still challenges to tackle in improving fuel efficiency, the industry lacks the technology to meet the new targets, the sources said.

Billions of yen in research and development costs would hurt profits for automakers just as domestic demand for passenger cars seems to have peaked, they said.

It is possible some smaller automakers may not survive the heavy development costs, they said.

For the time being, development will focus on computerized low-fuel-consumption engines, such as fuel-diluting engines developed by Honda Motor Co., Mitsubishi Motors Corp., and Toyota Motor Corp.

After notifying the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) secretariat about the new targets, in line with the GATT standards code, the committee will hear comments about the new goals from GATT members in about nine weeks, the officials said.

Later this year, MITI and the Transport Ministry will formally announce the new efficiency standards based on the energy saving law, they said.

For vehicles other than gasoline-powered passenger cars, the committee intends to work out a target to improve fuel efficiency in the future, they said.

Gasoline-run trucks could have an efficiency target set through existing measuring methods, but there currently is no method to measure fuel efficiency for diesel trucks, they said.

MITI Draws Up 'Earth Reconstruction Program'

OW0906133892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 09 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 9 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry has drawn up an earth renewal program calling for a worldwide network to monitor global warming and the use of new energy sources less harmful to the environment, ministry officials said Tuesday.

The officials said the program, if implemented, would reduce the volume of carbon dioxide discharged by advanced nations into the atmosphere in the year 2010 by 10 percent from the present level.

The plan, named the Earth Reconstruction Program, calls for the establishment of a worldwide network to monitor emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases believed responsible for the greenhouse effect or global warming, the officials said.

It also proposes international cooperation for the development and use of new pollution-free energy sources such as hydrogen, they said.

Japan will also improve the quality of its official development assistance (ODA) to contribute to the preservation of environment, particularly in Asia, the officials said.

They said the ministry will seek appropriations for the program in a budget for fiscal 1993.

The officials said the program was originally proposed by Japan at the summit of seven industrialized nations held in Houston, Texas, in July 1990.

The global network to monitor the greenhouse effect would be completed by 2000 to analyze data transmitted from an earth observation satellite to be launched in fiscal 1995, the officials said.

As for the development and use of new energy sources, the program calls for an international study on technological aspects for disposal or storage of carbon dioxide underground or at the deep sea, the officials said.

The New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) affiliated with the ministry will provide funds for the project, they said.

Under the program, Japan will transfer technology to Asian countries to build desulfurization equipment at electric power stations and to promote the use of new energy sources, including solar power.

The program aims to curtail emissions of sulfuric elements in developing nations by about 70 percent and the ratio of energy consumption to their gross national product by about 20 percent, the officials said.

The program also calls for a swap of the external debt burden in developing nations for nature preservation, forestation of the deserts, and protection of endangered wildlife and plants, they said.

North Korea

ROK's 'Intention To Nullify' Accords Criticized

SK0906052192 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 9 Jun 92

["Provocateurs Dance to the Tune of Foreign Forces"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 9 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities at a recent tripartite "working-level meeting for security" with the United States and Japan raised outcries over someone's "nuclear threat" and wove a plot to take a "tough step" against the DPRK.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today points out:

This is a downright perfidy to the DPRK as it undisguisedly betrays the intention to nullify the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation in which the North and the South vowed before the nation to achieve peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula by the internal force of the nation.

The analyst further says:

Clear is the aim of the South Korean authorities who are kicking up in conspiracy with foreign forces a row over our nuclear problem which poses no problem. The South Korean authorities together with the United States and Japan have so far considered the nuclear inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as a precondition for the improvement of the relations between the DPRK and the United States and between the DPRK and Japan. The inspection by the IAEA is now under way. Feeling uneasy about the fact that this removes a stumbling-block in the way of improving these relations, they try to throw new hurdles in the way of improving the relations by picking up a new quarrel with the DPRK over the nuclear problem and thus aggravating the North-South relationship.

Things, however, will not go as the South Korean authorities wish.

The South Korean authorities must immediately stop the ridiculous nuclear row.

Paper Urges 'Wide Range' North-South Dialogue

SK0906104092 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 9 Jun 92

["Wide-Range Dialogue Between North and South Must Be Realized"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 9 (KCNA)—It comes from their self-righteous way of thinking to monopolize debate and negotiations on the reunification problem and is to abuse the dialogue for an insidious purpose that the South Korean authorities are trying to exclude people of different strata from debate and negoiations on the problem of reunification under the pretext of the "unified channel of dialogue", says NODONG SINMUN today in a by-lined article.

The authorities' talk about the "unified channel of dialogue" is intended to monopolize the North-South dialogue, ignoring and insulting the pro-reunification patriotic forces, the author of the article says, and goes on:

Having monopolized dialogue, the South Korean authorities have continued to lay obstacles in the way of implementing the agreement and solving the reunification question at the talks with us. It can be seen in their delaying tactics employed by them, not showing any zeal to adopt an annexed agreement for the implementation of the agreement at the meetings of sub-committees and the Nuclear Control Joint Committee held in Panmunjom.

If wide-range dialogue and negotiations are to be developed between the North and the South, the barrier blocking it should be pulled down.

What is most important is to abolish such anti-national, anti-reunification evil laws as the "National Security Law" which the South Korean authorities have invoked to antagonize the North, block national reconciliation and unity and suppress the pro- reunification patriotic forces of South Korea.

The South Korean authorities should take a measure for releasing without delay Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, woman student Yim Su-kyong and other patriotic visitors to the North. They should also give parties, groupings, broad sections of political forces and people of all strata an equal chance to have a free contact and dialogue with the North.

If the South Korean authorities continue to bar the participation of people of all strata in dialogue, they will face punishment.

South Korea

Government Concerned Over Japan Peacekeeping Bill

SK0906004792 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The government officially expressed concern that Japan's House of Councillors passed the cooperative bill on United Nations peacekeeping activities.

A Foreign Ministry official commented that the government had expressed deep interest and worry over moves to dispatch Japan's Self-Defense Forces overseas, which implies the possible use of force. He stated that the Japanese Government must consider neighboring countries' concerns and prudently deal with the matter of dispatching its Self-Defense Forces overseas.

The official said that although this bill freezes Japan's participation in the peacekeeping forces until a separate law is made, this measure might be removed, and thus the government will continue to observe future developments.

In addition, the official stated the bill stipulates the Self-Defense Forces will be sent overseas only if they are requested by the United Nations secretary-general and approved by the countries in dispute. Approval by the Diet is also required. He stated these regulations seem to consider public opinion at home and abroad.

Japan's 'Unspoken Attitudes' Examined

SK0906035892 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Jun 92 p 6

[Editorial: "Gov't Steps on Japan's Militarism"]

[Text] With the controversial peacekeeping operation (PKO) bill rammed through the special committee of the upper house of Diet last week, Japan's dispatch of troops overseas for the first time since World War II is virtually only a question of time, in spite of "cow-walking" delays and other filibustering tactics by the major opposition Socialists and other opponents.

The bill is expected to pass through all remaining legislative procedures, probably by June 21 when the current Diet session is due to end, because the governing Liberal Democrats hold a narrow majority in the upper chamber with two cooperative opposition parties and a solid majority in the more powerful lower house.

The bill is to allow the creation of a 2,000-man Japanese corps to participate in United Nations peacekeeping operations. Japanese Defense Agency Director General Sohei Miyashita has said Japan plans to send initially 720 ground troops including medical and transport teams and 10 helicopters and crew to join the U.N. operation in Cambodia.

At present, there are only two countries—Korea and China—which have expressed worry about the Japanese bill. The United States and other Western nations have shown their support for Japan's troop contributions in addition to material or economic ones for peacekeeping purposes.

Of course, in principle we have no objections to Japan as a member of the United Nations playing a part in the global effort to maintain world peace. But as the most serious victim of Japan's old militarism until the end of World War II, the nation and other Asian neighboring countries are steadfastly opposed to the looming revival of Japanese militarism, vividly remembering the innumerable atrocities committed by the Japanese against their neighbors in the past.

We are now much concerned about Tokyo's unspoken attitudes and general Japanese ways of thinking, present and future, which may lead to their envisioning a revival of the ultranationalism and militarism which dared to unleash aggression against neighboring countries earlier this century.

It is apparent that the worrying Japanese move to dispatch troops abroad, supported by right-wing forces espousing an extreme nationalism, will become a grave threat to stability in Northeast and Southeast Asia, in particular.

An economic superpower, Japan is almost certain to force its economic way into the region following its military advance there even under the name of participating in the U.N. peacekeeping operations initially in Cambodia.

Our government may well reserve official comment on the Japanese PKO bill until its final passage through the Japanese lower house in view of the delicateness of international politics, unlike Korea's ruling and opposition parties which have already expressed misgivings about the bill.

But now is the time for the government to seek joint action with China and other Asian nations to cope with the revival of Japanese militarism following the dispatch of Japanese troops overseas. Tokyo is once again asked if it is truly repentant for all of the past wrongdoings against its neighbors and can justify sending its troops abroad on what is called a humanitarian mission to keep world peace and help good neighbors fight against invaders.

Increased Japanese Technology Transfer Urged

SK0906041592 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 Jun 92 p 8, 9

[By correspondent Kang Sok-chae]

[Text] Tokyo—Korea and Japan, concurring on the importance of technological cooperation for future-oriented bilateral relations, yesterday agreed in principle to exert joint efforts for improved economic ties.

Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu, meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa at the latter's residence here called for Japanese cooperation in technology transfers to Korea for the establishment of a new bilateral partnership, focusing not only on the Far Eastern region but also on the world economy.

Choe, on the final leg of a two-week tour of three European countries and Japan, emphasized the importance of both governments in creating a good environment for technological cooperation besides private-level technological efforts.

"In that sense, the creation of a foundation for cooperation in industry, science and technology is very important," the deputy premier and minister of economic planning said.

In a summit meeting between the Japanese premier and Korean President No Tae-u in January this year, Korea and Japan agreed to work in seven fields by the end of June in a bid to rectify the widening trade imbalance in disfavor of Korea. Among them were measures for hi-tech transfers from Japan to Korea including the establishment of a foundation, wider opening of the Japanese market to Korean products and environmental cooperation.

Japan, citing difficulties in establishing the fund, responded negatively to Korea's request for a contribution of $150 million to the proposed $200 million Korea-Japan industrial and technological cooperation foundation at the summit. The foundation is aimed at facilitating hi-tech transfers from Japan, mainly by sponsoring Korean students studying advanced industrial and scientific technology.

In yesterday's meeting, Miyazawa said the best way for bilateral technological cooperation is through joint venture projects.

"To promote joint ventures, Korea should improve the investment environment for Japanese firms," the Japanese premier said, adding that the two sides should try to narrow differences over the foundation issue through working-level talks.

A working-level meeting of the Korea-Japan Committee for Trade, Industrial and Technological Cooperation is expected to be held in Tokyo this week.

The cooperation committee was formed between the two governments in 1990 following President No's visit to Tokyo.

Miyazawa, embroiled in a political swirl over the passage of the so-called PKO (peacekeeping operations) bill, said that there are wide difference between the Japanese Government and business circles on the necessity of establishing the foundation and economic problems facing the two nations.

"But we feel the need to establish the foundation and other follow-up measures to rectify the trade," the premier said. "The Japanese Government is calling for business circles' cooperation."

On the Korea-Russian fisheries agreement, signed last September, allowing Korea to catch fish in the seas of the "four northern islands" at the center of a territorial dispute between Moscow and Tokyo, Deputy Premier Choe said the pact is no longer an obstacle to Korea-Japan cooperation as the issue is nearly settled through bilateral negotiations.

Miyazawa, evaluating the Korean economy as high, said that the current trade deficits facing Korea is not a "grave" problem as its economy is in the process of structural change.

Korea suffered a trade deficit of nearly $8.8 billion with Japan last year, up by about $2 billion from the previous year. The deficit accounted for over 90 percent of Seoul's total foreign trade short-fall of $9.6 billion.

Trade Boom With Northern Countries 'Disappearing'

SK0906091392 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 9 Jun 92 p 2

[Text] At a time when domestic and export industries are not showing any signs of recovery, even trade with northern countries, which had been considered the Sixth Republic's greatest achievement, has become sluggish. As a result, the trade has become a "burden on the Sixth Republic."

The ROK's trade with the former Soviet Union, China, East Europe, North Korea, and other northern countries has become sluggish this year, and the businessmen's enthusiasm for trade with northern countries has cooled. Therefore, some people point out that the ROK Government has failed to pay attention to the economic aspects of its northern policy.

Authorities revealed on 8 June that, caught in the "trap" of loans which the ROK extended as part of economic cooperation, exports and imports between the ROK and the CIS, which had led our trade with the northern countries, have almost stalled. Also, the boom in our trade with East Europe is rapidly disappearing.

Even though the ROK's trade with China has been expanding, it is running up ballooning deficits. Also, trade between North and South Korea has slowed as relations between North and South Korea have changed rapidly.

The $3 billion in loans which the ROK Government pledged in exchange for diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union has put the brakes on trade between the two countries this year. A government delegation led by Yi Hwan-kyun, second assistant minister of finance, was sent to Moscow. During that trip, the Russian Federation assured the ROK Government that it would fully shoulder the former Soviet Union's debts and interest. Still, the prospects are not bright.

In the meantime, ROK trade with East European countries more than doubled every year from 1988 to 1990. However, it began to decline last year, and decreased by 70 percent in the first quarter of this year compared to the corresponding period last year. The boom in trade with these northern countries has disappeared because their economic situation has worsened and because, as a result, their demand for imports has declined. Also, this has dealt a serious blow to our exports of electronic products, in particular.

Our trade with China, our competitor in international markets, is rapidly increasing every year. However, our trade deficits with China, which began in 1989, are ballooning.

Our country ran up $1.09 billion in deficits last year, and $530 million in the first quarter of this year, a 17.2-percent increase compared to the corresponding period of last year.

Plans for Industrial Park in Siberia Outlined

SK0906070692 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Jun 92 p 8

[Text] Construction of an industrial complex exclusively for South Korean firms will start this year in the Russian Far East of Primorskiy Kray and will be completed by 1994, a Korean business leader said over the weekend.

Chang Chi-hyok, chairman of the Kohap Business Group, said at Seoul's Kimpo International Airport on his return from a trip to the Russian Far East that social infrastructure was well-prepared and the provincial authorities promised support for the formation of the complex, which will cover 1 million pyong (one pyong equals 3.3 square meters).

"Ground will be broken within this year and Korean firms will be able to move into the complex at the end of 1994," Chang said.

The Korea Land Development Corp. will lease the spacious lot for 70 years and will allot the land to local firms hoping to move in.

"Preferential admission is eyed for light industrial firms such as textile companies suffering from manpower shortages and high wages and fisheries and wood processing firms that can utilize the rich natural resources in Siberia," Chang said.

He was accompanied by 18 other executives from a dozen firms.

Ministry, Bank Differ on Interest Rate Increase

SK0906031192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0226 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 9 (YONHAP)—The Finance Ministry and the Bank of Korea [BOK] agreed Monday to keep total money supply growth at 18.5 percent, but reserved debate over when to start the second phase of interest-rate liberalization.

Ministry and central bank officials expressed concern over an abrupt rise in interest rates caused by liberalization in the financial policy talks, which were also attended by Finance Minister Yi Yong-man and BOK governor Cho Soon.

Huh Han-do, assistant BOK governor, said after the meeting that liberalization would stabilize interest rates in the short term but push them up in the long run, increasing the financial burden on industry.

Yi Chong-chae, director-general of the ministry's Finance Bureau, agreed interest rates should be lowered, but predicted that liberalization would boost interest rates at first due to inflation psychology.

The timing for second-phase liberalization was not determined but it will not be instituted by the end of the year, Yi added.

Liberalization, set to begin between July 1992 and December 1993, covers lending rates free of financial supports and BOK rediscounting, interest rates for regular savings at banks, general non-specific money in trust, development money in trust and others.

Ho said officials at the talks showed "keen interest" in the money supply in the second half of the year and that the central bank would push ahead with the M2 supply target of 18.5 percent, announced in December 1991.

The target has not been changed because of the liquidity squeeze affecting industry, a rash of bankruptcies of small firms, reduced operations of short-term finance institutions and the uncertain outlook for the financial market.

Some critics say the target needs to change now that interest rates are being stabilized and money supply is under control.

Huh said the government would supply 250 billion won (318 million U.S. dollars) in support to promising small firms with financial problems by the end of June and inject another 250 billion won by the end of December.

Parties React to Candidate's Remarks on Communism

SK0906083392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0753 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 9 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, a volatile businessman-turned-politician who is used to shaking up this sensitive nation with quixotic remarks, sent out shock waves Monday [8 June] by suggesting legalization of the communist party.

Within hours of his remark, stunned government leaders and political parties, other than Chong's own Unification National Party, reacted sharply, mostly by expressing disbelief at what were typically called reckless and irresponsible remarks.

In the press, editorial writers and commentators unanimously criticized Chong for his senseless and anachronistic idea.

It was supremely ironical, they said, for Chong to air such a ludicrous idea at this time, pointing out that Chong was the one who had benefited from the capitalist, free market system more than anyone else in this country.

North Korea, understandably, was quick to jump on Chong's proposal Tuesday.

Its official mouthpiece, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), monitored here, relayed Chong's statement in which he urged, among other things, abolition of the National Security Law.

Perhaps anticipating such a reaction from North Korea, one of the nation's leading newspapers, the TONG-A ILBO, commented in an editorial Tuesday that it found Chong's remarks shocking because they were made at a time when North Korea was trying to turn the South Korean Government into a regional governing body within the framework of its pet scheme to institute the so-called Koryo federal system for a unified Korea.

"Were they calculated remarks, or just a misstatement?" Asked another mass-circulation daily, the CHUNGANG ILBO.

"In light of the situation in our society, where all kinds of reckless and irresponsible remarks and promises are being made in order to get votes, his could be described as calculated remarks," the paper said.

As formation of a communist party was neither lawful nor appealed to national sentiment, and as Chong's remarks could be of no help to his presidential campaign, they could only be a misstatement, the paper said.

Despite the mounting criticism, Chong defended his remarks Tuesday as guaranteed by the freedom of thought.

"Communism is dying and passing into history. And who in this country would accept such an idea?" He said.

Nevertheless, the ruling Democratic Liberal Party issued a statement in which spokesman Pak Hui-tae said Chong's remarks were "a direct challenge to the free, democratic system of this country."

The party's chief policymaker, Hwang In-sung, questioned Chong's wisdom for making such a suggestion at a time when South-North Korean relations were fluid at best.

Even Kim Tae-chung, co-chairman of the main opposition Democratic Party [DP] and regarded as one of Korea's most liberal politicians, said he could not describe Chong's remarks as "a proper statement."

An advocate of abolition of the National Security Law, Kim said he did not expect Chong to make such remarks. Legalizing communism was not the proper thing to do, not only because the Constitution does not allow it but it still runs against the grain of most people, he said.

Other DP leaders, including spokesman Chang Sok-hwa, agreed that Chong obviously made the remarks with progressive and reform-minded voters and activist students in mind.

In any event, most people seemed to agree with the CHUNGANG ILBO, which said in its editorial: "Either way, the remarks are reckless and irresponsible. Chong should be held responsible for all the consequences arising from them."

Chong Reverses Remarks

SK0906031292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0235 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 9 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, executive chairman of the Unification National Party, reversed himself on allowing a South Korean communist party Tuesday, saying that a communist party could not be allowed if it did not respect the market economy and private property.

On Monday, Chong created an uproar when he told a conference organized by the weekly SISA JOURNAL that a communist party would be all right as long as it did not harm anybody.

"I was trying to emphasize that freedom of thought should be guaranteed and the National Security Law should be repealed," Chong told reporters Tuesday.

"Even if the promoters abide by the principle of parliamentary democracy and do not use violence, they should not be allowed to launch a communist party if they do not respect the principles of a market economy and private property."

Contending that the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) and the National Security Law made people timid, Chong said his party would submit a revision to the NSP law and a bill abolishing the Security Law to the National Assembly.

He said that if the prosecution asked him to explain his remarks, he would refuse.

NPRP Candidate Pak Chan-chong Profiled

SK0906063392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0528 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 9 (YONHAP)—Rep. Pak Chan-chong, nominated Tuesday by his New Political Reform Party (NPRP) as its presidential candidate, is a five-term legislator who was first elected to the National Assembly on the ticket of the then-ruling Democratic Republican Party in 1973, when he was 34.

He was ousted from the party for his outspokenness in 1980 and joined the opposition.

A lawyer, he has represented dissidents in connection with such cases as the seizure of the U.S. Cultural Center, the sexual harassment of a dissident woman at the Puchon police station and the torture-death of a student activist.

As a legislator, Pak was prosecuted for demonstrating in front of Korea University in 1985. He was convicted and sentenced to one year in prison with a stay of execution for two years. In 1990, the conviction was overturned.

In 1987, when both Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung ran for president from the opposition camp, Pak shaved his head to urge a single opposition candidacy and so distanced himself from the two Kims.

He is rated as highly clear-headed but is unable to mingle with other politicians because of his exceptional ego.

A member of the Democratic Party led by Yi Ki-taek last year, Pak rejected a merger of the opposition and left to found his own party. He was the only member of the NPRP to win a seat in the March general elections.

Born in Kimhae, South Kyongsang Province, in 1939, Pak attended Kyongnam Middle and Kyonggi High Schools and studied economics at Seoul National University.

In his under-graduate years he passed both the bar and senior public officials examinations and obtained public accountant's license.

A devout Roman Catholic, Pak and his wife, Chong Ki-ho, 53, have a son and two daughters. Pak says he respects Kim Ku and Mahatma Gandhi.

Kim Tae-chung Interviewed on Reunification

SK0606150592 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 4 Jun 92 p 5

[Interview with Democratic Party Co-chairman Kim Tae-chung by O Kwi-hwan; place, date not given]

[Text] At a time when South-North relations have suddenly cooled, an interview was held with Democratic Party [DP] Co-chairman Kim Tae-chung in which he talked mainly about the reunification issue.

The interview was carried out in a question and answer style to directly convey his current views.

[O Kwi-hwan] Currently South-North relations have cooled. How do you assess this kind of trend?

[Kim Tae-chung] I feel very dubious. Information is very important in assessing how South-North relations are progressing, but I have not received any information. It has been less than one month since the seventh round of the South-North high-level talks took place. I cannot understand why the government is being so pessimistic about the talks while dealing with the South-North talks. The nuclear issue has not been resolved, but it does not mean that it has been completely ruptured. I am somewhat stunned that the government says South-North relations will go back to the starting point if the nuclear issue is not resolved. What is important in resolving the nuclear issue is that reliable measures are taken so that the South and North, especially the North, will not draw suspicion.

[O Kwi-hwan] Currently the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] is carrying out nuclear inspection in North Korea.

[Kim Tae-chung] Because it was agreed to hold mutual inspections with the South, this must also be carried out. Regarding the nuclear issue, both sides should be allowed to carry out inspection of what they want. This does not mean that I have doubts about North Korea developing nuclear weapons. What I mean is that because the North is not responding to mutual inspection quickly, this gives people who do not want progress in South-North relations a good excuse. I am worried that maybe forces are using the current strained situation to strengthened themselves within the government and ruling party.

[O Kwi-hwan] Under the condition that the nuclear issue will be resolved smoothly, what is your view on the desirable mid- and long-term direction of South-North relations?

[Kim Tae-chung] What is most important in South-North relations is patience. As it was with us for the past 47 years after our liberation, the North Korean people were forced to listen to the same thing, so time is necessary to change their way of thinking. Recently North Korea has changed considerably. How can North Korea produce nuclear weapons secretly when it is receiving international nuclear inspection? Also, even if the North is secretly producing nuclear weapons, how long will this be a secret? Second, we must be aware that no one can prevent the trend of history. Ultimately, North Korea will have to reconcile with the Western world and open up. In some sense, time is on our side. If we understand North Korea from this viewpoint, I believe it is correct to deal with North Korea with composure.

[O Kwi-hwan] Last last year when the Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Cooperation and Exchange between the South and North was adopted, the agreement was not ratified or approved. As the main opposition party, how will your party take legal procedures regarding this matter after the opening of the 14th National Assembly?

[Kim Tae-chung] There is a special aspect to the South-North agreement; it also has the characteristics a treaty. When the agreement was signed, names of the two countries were used. South and North Korea also joined the United Nations simultaneously.

The agreement would have the same influence over security, economy, taxes, and everyday life as a treaty. Therefore, according to Article 60 of the constitution, the South-North agreement must be approved by the National Assembly. There has not been such an enormously influential treaty as this since the founding of the ROK.

[O Kwi-hwan] As the main opposition party, how will your party reflect opinions on South-North dialogue at the 14th National Assembly?

[Kim Tae-chung] What is most important is the attitude of the person holding the power regarding reunification. There are forces opposing reunification and South-North dialogue. The person holding the power has to have the philosophy, vision, and conviction to persuade these forces. Also, the vicious habit of linking reunification with our domestic politics must be abolished.

Therefore, the government must have common interests with the opposition parties regarding the reunification issue and discuss this issue with dissidents. As our party has proposed, we must form a group to discuss the pan-national reunification issue so that discussions can be held wholly from the position of the people and a reunification policy drawn up. A referendum on that policy must be carried out to obtain a majority of the people's support.

[O Kwi-hwan] Can you explain in detail the DP's reunification policy? Is there any possibility for its revision or supplementation?

[Kim Tae-chung] The DP's reunification policy is to achieve peaceful reunification in three phases through a confederation of the republics. Originally, the three-phase reunification policy of peaceful coexistence, peaceful exchange, and peaceful reunification was made by me during the 1971 presidential elections. The first phase is to achieve one union and two independent governments; the second phase is to achieve one confederation and two autonomous governments; the third phase is to achieve one nation, one state, and one government. In the first phase, the South and North governments should both have the same power in diplomatic, defense, and state affairs. While carrying out activities as independent governments, the South and North should establish a confederal organ of the same number to deal with military and political measures such as arms reduction for peaceful coexistence. This organ should be operated upon agreement between the two sides, and both sides should have substantial veto power. In the second phase—as in the U.S. Federal Government—the confederal government should assume the reins of power in diplomatic and defense fields, including important state affairs.

If the second phase progresses smoothly, then we will be able to achieve a system of one nation, one state, and one government, which is the finishing touch in achieving reunification. This policy was highly assessed and received positive response from both the South and North.

[O Kwi-hwan] What is your opinion on university students hoisting North Korean flags and calling for the withdrawal of U.S. troops?

[Kim Tae-chung] Hoisting the North Korean flag gives an excuse to forces that do not want to achieve reunification. I understand why the students hoisted both the flags of South and North Korea, because we have to be reunified. Nevertheless, we must still consider the people's sentiment. It would have been better if the students hoisted a single flag of the Korean peninsula.

I believe that the issue of withdrawing U.S. troops must be considered from the viewpoint of the nation's security. Currently Japan is growing militarily. We must face the fact that historically, when there was a gap in power on the Korean peninsula, Japan advanced into the peninsula. I believe it will be better if the U.S. troops remain here for the time being.

[O Kwi-hwan] What do you think about the issue of the National Security Law and releasing the reunification figures who are in prison?

[Kim Tae-chung] The figures who are in prison must be released. The National Security Law must also be reorganized. For us to say that we must maintain the National Security Law because of North Korea's criminal law means that we must carry out dictatorship because North Korea is carrying out dictatorship. Now is the time to carry out democracy first and then establish a democratic government that understands, protects, and promotes the reunification movement.

Hints at Relinquishing DP Leadership

SK0606045192 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 6 Jun 92 p 2

[By staff reporter Kim Chang-yong]

[Text] Pusan—Kim Tae-chung, chairman of the Democratic Party [DP] yesterday strongly hinted he would hand over party leadership to co-chairman Yi Ki-taek as his political successor after the December presidential election.

In a meeting with about 500 cadre members of the party, all from Pusan and nearby Kyongsang Provinces, he said, "I will stand aloof from party hegemony, irrespective of my win or loss in the coming election. I will give way to my junior. My successor will be co-chairman Yi Ki-taek."

Kim and Yi merged their parties into the DP in September last year on condition they share the party leadership on an equal footing but the former has so far controlled main opposition party as boss of the majority faction.

A four to four sharing of the vice chairmanship was broken in favor of Kim's faction, largely based in Kwangju and Cholla provinces, in the May 26 national convention, and the six new deputies are vying for the top post-Kim hierarchy posts.

Yi's followers are generally from here, the nation's second largest city, and Kyongsang provinces, which, however, favor more ruling party leader Kim Yong-sam.

"I will not select my successor on the basis of where he is from," he added.

He came here for a two-day-stay to encourage party members and have a hot debate with senior journalists in the area as guest speaker at their inaugural forum. Pusan, hostile to him and his party in past elections, was the first destination of his first provincial tour since his presidential nomination two weeks ago.

He devoted most of his speech to the Kaya Club forum to plea for the eradication of regional antagonism, a chronic disease that characterizes voting trends and further divides the nation into the east and west, in addition to the ideological split, of south and north.

He said he would not hold massive outdoor rallies in his stronghold as part of efforts not to fuel rivalry between the southeastern Yongnam and southwestern Honam area, represented by government party nominee Kim Yong-sam and himself, respectively.

The DP leader vowed to recruit government officials without any discrimination against a "specific area" and form a Cabinet with persons from all parties in a "politics of grand harmony," if elected chief executive.

Advisers 'Optimistic' About Resolving Nuclear Issue

SK0906062492 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 Jun 92 p 2

[By staff reporter Kang Song-chol]

[Text] Despite lingering suspicion on North Korea's nuclear efforts, policy advisers at the presidential office of Chongwadae appear optimistic about resolving the nuclear question.

They say they are convinced that the nuclear issue will be settled "within a reasonable period of time" in the vortex of inter-Korea and international relations.

Their attitude contrasts with hawkish views voiced by some other government officials following a stalemate in inter-Korean negotiations on the agreed-upon reciprocal nuclear inspections.

"We should look at the nuclear question in the broad picture of progress in inter-Korean relations," said Kim Chong-hwi, national security adviser to President No Tae-u, yesterday.

He accused the news media of fretting and being sensational in reporting on inter-Korean relations, particularly the nuclear issue.

"The two sides (South and North Korea) may sometimes argue with each other. But I believe that the talks will ultimately produce good results," Kim said on the inter-Korean nuclear negotiations.

The two Koreas failed to work out a regime for mutual nuclear inspections by last month, the originally set deadline. It has thus become impossible for the inspection to take place this month as originally sought.

Seoul and Pyongyang in February activated a joint declaration calling for the ban of nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula, and agreed to pursue inspections of suspected weapons sites in each other's territory.

The inter-Korean inspection is independent from nuclear surveillance by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Kim appears to think that a reconciliation process has started in earnest on the peninsula and that accordingly, the nuclear question will be settled in the not too distant future.

"Let's compare the situation now and that of a year ago," he said while emphasizing improvements made in inter-Korean relations so far.

Both Koreas held four rounds of prime ministers' talks and numerous committee and subcommittee-level negotiations during the past year.

They signed a milestone accord calling for nonaggression, reconciliation and exchanges as well as the joint denuclearization declaration.

As part of the efforts for reconciliation, the two sides are to exchange visits of separated family members around Aug. 15, Liberation Day, for the second time since the territorial division after World War II.

Another ranking national security official at Chongwadae said he believes that the North will have no choice but to implement the mutual nuclear inspection.

"As for the mutual inspection, they (North Korea) may feel a more urgent need to do it," said the official, who asked not to be named. "They have opened their Yongbyon facilities to international inspection, and now they must want to see something in the South."

The North, he said, must also be well aware that without the resolution of the nuclear issue, it could not seek improvement of ties with Japan and the United States.

The official also voiced regrets that some domestic media had called the failure to work out the hinter-Korean nuclear inspection regime a "breakdown."

"It's not a breakdown. It's just a temporary suspension," he contended.

He said the negotiations could resume sometime after mid-June, when an IAEA team reports the results of its initial inspection of the North's facilities in Yongbyon to the agency's board of governors meeting.

"Pyongyang may think that it can avoid international criticism so long as the IAEA inspection is going on," the official said.

He hoped that each side would make some concessions to strike an accord. His remark suggests that the South is considering showing flexibility in such calls for "challenge inspections," surveillance conducted on demand at short notice.

He, however, stressed that Seoul will stick to the principle of reciprocity, indicating that it would never accept Pyongyang's suggestion of opening Yongbyon in return for seeing all American military bases here.

The official also brushed aside as "sheer speculation" the allegation that the United States was putting pressure on Seoul regarding the nuclear inspection issue.

"We have consultations with the United States. But we make the final decisions," he said.

National security officials at Chongwadae in general caution against remarks provoking the North, while asserting that it is now time to see the greater picture of national reunification.

"It is now time for us to make full-fledged preparations for unification," one official said, while calling for moderation in dealing with the nuclear issue.

He admitted that there are differing views within the government on how to deal with North Korea in regard to the nuclear question. "It is natural that there is a diversity of views on the matter."

Some hard-liners in the government are said to be calling for harsher steps against the North, particularly following the failure last month to prepare the inspection rules.

The hard-liners include those in the Agency for National Security Planning.

Joint Political Subcommittee Meeting Detailed

SK0906092692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0910 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 9 (OANA-YONHAP)—Fifth inter-Korean Political Subcommittee talks made no progress Tuesday as two sides argued over the contents to a protocol on reconciliation.

South and North Korea are close to an angreement on the name, preamble and format of the protocol but remain apart on key issues such as abolition of security laws that do not recognize each other's system, officials said.

The two sides will meet again July 2. They agreed in principle at last month's prime ministers' talks to adopt the protocol on reconciliation before the next prime ministers' meeting in September.

Southern delegates proposed the subcommittee discuss ways to convert the Korean Armistice of 1953 to a peace pact. They demanded that North Korea appear at the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) to discuss infiltration of three armed North Korean soldiers across the demarcation line May 22.

North Korean delegates, however, denied any involvement in the incident, officials said.

They instead demanded that Seoul repeal all laws that deny each other's system or ideology and designate the other side as an enemy, such as South Korea's National Security Law.

South Korea rebutted, saying North Korea must also repeal its constitutional and party clauses that go against national unification.

North Korean draft of the protocol said neither Seoul nor Pyongyang should side with a third nation against each other and that South and North Korea should join and participate in international organizations and conferences under a single name and seat.

It also demands that both sides halt all types of slander against each other.

U.S. Involvement in Nuclear Issue Criticized

SK0806124292 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 6 Jun 92 p 2

[Editorial: "South and North Korea Are the Main Partners in Resolving Nuclear Issue—the United States Has No Right To Hand Down a Directive"]

[Text] The visit of old parents on the occasion of the 15 August national liberation anniversary seems to have encountered a great difficulty. North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk said in a telephone message that "with the South side officially declaring that it cannot expect any progress in the North-South agreement, we must expect the possibility of dim prospects for exchanging groups of visiting old parents on the 15 August liberation anniversary."

We believe this is the result of the United States and the South "continuously pressing hard" on North Korea, with the South side acceding to U.S. "pressure." South Korea and the United States turned North Korea's nuclear issue, which was caused by suspicion about North Korea's nuclear reprocessing facilities, into a military issue. Their joint offensive is blocking North and South Korea from moving along the road of peaceful coexistence. Thus, the work on groups to visit old parents is being affected.

The fifth meeting of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Commission [JNCC] on 27 May failed to reach agreement on inspection regulations. The nuclear offensive toward the North by the United States and South Korea immediately became violent. Prime Minister Chong Won-sik's telephone message and a statement denouncing North Korea by Yi Tong-pok, the South side's spokesman to the North-South high-level talks, were made public on 1 June and 2 June successively. In particular, spokesman Yi maintained that "one can calculate that North Korea is already capable of producing at least 15 to 17 kg of plutonium," thus intentionally inciting North Korea.

In addition, the South Korean Government did not conceal its frequent "contacts with and visits to" the United States and Japan in order to maintain consistency. The visits of Lehman, director of U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and Nakahira Noboru, senior delegate to North Korea-Japan talks for normalization of diplomatic relations, to Seoul are remarkable examples these contacts and visits.

Pressure on U.S. Forces in South Korea and redeployment of nuclear weapons is rapidly increasing. Leslie Nixie, researcher at the U.S. Congressional Research Institute, proposed a plan not only to resume the Team Spirit military exercise but also re-deploy U.S. tactical nuclear weapons in South Korea during the training period in case mutual inspection of the North and the South is not satisfactory. RisCassi, commander of the U.S. forces in South Korea, also revealed that preparations for resuming the Team Spirit exercise next year are under way. The U.S. Department of State suggested that additional reduction of U.S. Forces in South Korea is linked to mutual inspection and clearly indicated the possibility of resuming the Team Spirit exercise.

The waves of U.S. and South Korean offensives present several problems and create worries. First, the South side's offensive is physical, instead of logical. A strong "drive" is often seen during negotiations. For example, an "all-out defensive attack" to reverse an unfavorable situation is used on many occasions. In view of the situation in which the nuclear inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] is being "satisfactorily" conducted, people are worried about an attempt to spoil the situation by pressing the other side excessively.

This offers a logical for criticism that the attempt to depreciate the IAEA inspection of Yongbyon by putting forward the inspection of military bases and special inspection [tukpyol sachal] is hasty.

People are also worried that the No Tae-u regime's terminal-stage phenomena are negatively influencing North-South reconciliation. Forces within the regime, who regard the division between North and South as beneficial to preserving their vested rights, might pursue a hard-line policy toward the North by collaborating with outside forces who have a similar position.

What is the source for "nuclearization of the Korean peninsula?" Needless to say, it is the United States. Who can resolve this problem? Needless to say, it is the North and South of Korea. The United States possesses nuclear weapons in South Korea but it is merely a third body. It has responsibility for its nuclear weapons but has no right to hand down directives to others. The government and the United States when it comes to nuclear negotiations should realize this. If the government solely pursues a hard-line policy, being dragged into global U.S. military strategy and nuclear policy, the world's public opinion which is the kernal of this stategy may reverse its position of being "favorable" to South Korea.

We advise our government to act with more flexibility and generosity. We should treat North Korea's nuclear issue and its nuclear reprocessing facilities with an approach based on peaceful use of nuclear power after examining the result of the IAEA inspection which will be made public in 10 days.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Asks Permission for 12 Jun-1 Jul Leave

BK0806150392 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Prince Norodom Sihanouk's 8 June message to compatriots—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, my beloved compatriots:

I, your Prince Father, Grandfather, and Great-Grandfather, have the honor of informing you, beloved children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, of the following:

1. I have to conduct an official mission to Japan on 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23 June 1992.

2. I ask your permission to stay in the PRC for a little while both before and after fulfilling the official mission to Japan. My 90-year-old aunt whose name is Princess Norodom Mom Ketkanya lives in Beijing, capital of the PRC. The princess is ailing and is receiving permanent treatment from famous Chinese doctors there. No matter how much she misses her Cambodian motherland and wishes to be home, her physical condition does not permit her to return to Phnom Penh as desired.

3. I am traveling to Beijing on 12 June and will be back on 1 July 1992.

I would like to express my most profound and heartfelt thanks to the Cambodian People's Party and the government of the State of Cambodia for kindly providing me with a special plane with an expert crew to enable me to make the trip in the near future. Having to live far away from you children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren—my beloved compatriots—I will miss all of you very much and always from the bottom of my heart.

Beloved children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, please accept my most profound affection and most steadfast and undying loyalty together with the five blessings of Lord Buddha—namely, long life, good complexion, happiness, strength, and prompt recovery.

Phnom Penh, 8 June 1992

Signed—Norodom Sihanouk

Sihanouk Accepts Credentials of New Ambassadors

Thai Ambassador

BK0806125092 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 8—Sunai Bunyasiriphan presented his credentials to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council (SNC), here last Saturday after he was appointed extraodinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Thailand to the SNC.

Mr. Sunai Bunyasiraphan was named on November 17, 1991 by the Kingdom of Thailand as special envoy to the SNC.

"This is the evidence of the further consolidation of cooperation between Cambodia and Thailand," the prince said referring to Mr. Siraphan's promoting.

Prince Sihanouk highly praised Thailand's role and contribution to the settlement of the Cambodia issue.

After the signing of the Paris accord, Thailand has done a lot to help restore Cambodia, Prince Sihanouk said.

Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, member of SNC, and Ieng Muli, member of SNC of Son Sann's facion, were also present.

Iranian Ambassador

BK0806124092 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1116 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 8—Iranian Ambassador Reza Hossein Mirza has presented credentials to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council (SNC), marking the establishment of diplomatic relations with the SNC.

Prince Sihanouk thanked Iran for its recognition of the SNC—the body symbolizing national sovereignty and reconciliation, comprising four rival Cambodian factions.

On behalf of the SNC and the Cambodian people, the prince pledged to create favorable conditions for the Iranian ambassador's mission in Cambodia so as to consolidate the friendship relations and cooperation between Cambodia and Iran.

Reza Hossein Miraz is also Iran ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Mexican Ambassador

BK0506062192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] At 1100 on 4 June at Khemarin Palace, His Excellency [H.E.] (Andric Nicolle), extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Mexico to Cambodia, presented his credentials to His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC]. Also present were H.E. Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia and SNC member, and H.E. Ieng Muli, representative of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party.

Speaking on that occasion, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk warmly welcomed the Mexican ambassador's presence in Cambodia, underlining that the mission would improve the solidarity and friendship of Cambodia and Mexico.

In his reply, H.E. (Andric Nicolle) reaffirmed that he would do his best to succeed in his task in Cambodia, and especially strive to promote bilateral ties.

UNTAC Head Gives Press Conference 5 Jun

BK0606123192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] The following is the press conference given by His Excellency Yasushi Akashi, special envoy of the UN secretary general and head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], on the afternoon of 5 June 1992.

[Begin Akashi recording in English fading into Cambodian translation] Ladies and gentlemen: I am very happy to meet with you. Since the press conference I made after my arrival, this is my first news conference for Cambodian correspondents. We wish to make known our new approach and I hope that you can better understand the objective of the United Nations' mission in Cambodia, which is to primarily promote peace, national reconciliation, and democracy here.

The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] has carried out the United Nations' largest operation in its history since 1985. The UNTAC has a budget of $2.5 billion, a peacekeeping force of nearly 6,000, and 9,000 administrative staff [words indistinct]. The UNTAC's operation is different from other peacekeeping operations not only because of [word indistinct] and its composition but also [words indistinct] and its special mission. The UNTAC is a UN military and civilian operation.

The most important of our tasks is to control and administer the civilian administrative structure, protect human rights, and organize and hold free and just general elections in the country. In addition, there are also other tasks that we will strive to perform. [words indistinct] the cooperation between international police forces and existing Cambodian police forces. I would like to make clear that the international police forces are not taking over the duties of the existing police forces but are cooperating with the latter to ensure a neutral political climate for holding elections. Moreover, we will also carry out two more important tasks that are not funded by the United Nations but by the contributions from various countries: the repatriation of nearly 350,000 Cambodian refugees and the restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia, which has been damaged by nearly 20 years of war and conflict.

The UNTAC shoulders an unprecedented responsibility for ensuring peace and security, organizing correct and free elections, protecting basic human rights, and ensuring the implementation of a multiparty system in the country, and so on. These assignments are clearly stipulated in the Paris accord signed on 23 October last year. As all of you are already aware, the signatories of the accord were all the Cambodian parties, the five major country members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], ASEAN states, Vietnam, and Laos. Our goal is to help Cambodia and the Cambodian people who have suffered in the war and conflict in the more than 20 years past. As a participant in the implementation of the task in Cambodia [words indistinct], we consider this the best opportunity to help Cambodia. However, I would like to inform you that we do not come to stay in Cambodia permanently. Most of us will leave Cambodia at the beginning of next year's rainy season, that is, after holding general elections.

Despite [words indistinct], only the UNTAC and the United Nations—the highest international body—that are empowered to act on behalf of the Cambodian people can restore peace in Cambodia. We do not come here to replace all the Cambodian parties but to help reunite them in order to restore genuine peace and security, thereby allowing the Cambodian people to live in peace and harmony. We are helping them carry out all their tasks during the transition to achieving their goal.

I would like to recall that there has been no war between western and eastern Europes since 1945. During these years, mutual trust has been built up. Process has effectively been implemented [words indistinct] and the announcement of the process in Stockholm in 1986 [words indistinct]. The war in Cambodia has dragged on for a long time and we think that this is due to the very sharp differences, disputes, and lack of mutual trust among Cambodians. However, we should compromise despite the serious difficulties. We have come here to help the process proceed. The cold war among the major powers has been over for many years and the climate of cooperation in other fields, such as technology and cultural exchanges, has begun. The military confrontation has been reduced in this new [word indistinct]. I think that the Cambodian people [words indistinct] have clearly seen the recent changes in the world. So it is certain that they ardently desire to find a new way of cooperation, negotiations, and reconciliation. And I believe that the Cambodian people will assist one another and join hands to stop confrontation [words indistinct) in order to rebuild a new life on the basis of democracy through the future elections.

All of you have already been aware of the most important process that the UNTAC will begin on 13 June, that is, the implementation of phase two of the cease-fire. We hope that during the application of the second phase of the cease-fire, we will be able to regroup, disarm, and demobilize by 70 percent the armies of the four Cambodian parties. But I wish to inform that there is a point that worries us—difficulties have been created by one party. So I think that the party (?does not) intend to begin phase two. And, regretfully, I wish to say that now a further attempt to destroy the cease-fire is being carried out by the party which refused to allow the UNTAC forces to freely enter the areas under its control; its Army commander has refused to participate in a military meeting to clearly determine (?its commitments), and to immediately put an end to the broadcast of fallacious news on the missions of the United Nations and UNTAC.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I wish to express my satisfaction with the full support and cooperation from HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the three parties among the four Cambodian parties as well as the five country members of the UNSC and all the other signatories of the Paris accord in October last year.

I would like to earnestly and [word indistinct] appeal to a Cambodian party to understand the real significance of our mission and goal. If not, I hope that it will listen to the voice of the (?international community), which represents the UNSC and UN General Assembly and the voice of the other three Cambodian parties. I think it is time to [word indistinct] genuine peace and rebuild the country. The United Nations is not coming here forever. Our presence here is short-lived. So we hope that that Cambodian party will cooperate—it is not able to work alone—to reestablish peace and democracy. And I firmly believe that the majority of the Cambodian people will support and help out [words indistinct]. And we hope that the Cambodian people will show their cooperative spirit in order to reconstruct a new Cambodia.

I am sorry that the time is running out. But if you have questions on the points I just mentioned, please ask.

[Correspondent] [words indistinct] at the SNC meeting, what [words indistinct] of all the Cambodian parties?

[Akashi] It is regrettable that among the four Cambodian parties, a party has not adopted the 12-point steps I presented at the last SNC meeting. However, I wish to make clear that among the consenting parties, some parties agreed to only execute 10, 11, or 12 steps [words indistinct]. I am extremely pleased with the Cambodian parties that have accepted those steps. But with regard to a certain party, we will further strive to make it join other parties in endorsing the steps. The steps are not for the interests of any party but for the interests of the entire Cambodian people and all the Cambodian parties, which should jointly implement all the aspects and implications of the Paris accord.

At this morning's SNC meeting, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk spoke about the results of a meeting he held yesterday afternoon with the four Cambodian parties. The prince asked Mr. Khieu Samphan to accept national reconciliation on the 12-point steps. However, it was regrettable that the prince did not receive a positive answer. And after this morning's SNC meeting, the stance of that Cambodian party remained unchanged.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct]

[Akashi] I have just heard of some difficulties [words indistinct]. However, I am viewing the issue with optimism. Because Cambodia has no other way out than to seek peace, national reconciliation, democracy, and national reunification. I wish to recall that not only the countries in Asia have experienced the difficulties due to war but also the countries in Europe, Africa, and Latin America have also faced the same hardship. Now, what we should do is to settle conflicts in a civilized and humanitarian manner. I believe we should further our efforts to assist the Cambodian people [words indistinct] through peaceful means and in a civilized and democratic manner. I think that those difficulties will be overcome and that Cambodia will certainly [words indistinct] in the end.

We are the representatives of the UNTAC [words indistinct] and we are staying in Cambodia temporarily. However, I ardently hope that the entire Cambodian people and all the Cambodian parties will effectively make use of our presence to reestablish their good relationship. We will eventually leave Cambodia and I think that this is the last chance for all the Cambodians to achieve a genuine peace.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct]

[Akashi] I wish to make clear that the party which refused to agree is the party of Democratic Kampuchea. That party always claims that Vietnamese forces have not been repatriated and they have even returned to the country as well. We think that the UNTAC's important task is to inform the Cambodian people that the neighboring country, which is a signatory of the Paris accord, has agreed to fully implement the accord and has already withdrawn its forces [from Cambodia]. We have set up UNTAC checkpoints along the Cambodian-Vietnamese border and are arranging the checkpoints along the borders adjoining Thailand and Laos. This is to control the cessation of aid from anywhere. We have invited the representatives of the four Cambodian parties to jointly work with the UN personnel at those checkpoints to monitor with their own eyes the situation there. Besides, we have called on Cambodian parties that possess information on the presence of Vietnamese troops [words indistinct] to pass the information to us. But we have received nothing so far.

On the current situation, we wish to reaffirm that we will send UNTAC observers everywhere across Cambodia to monitor the implementation of the cease-fire. Concerning your question, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk deeply regretted the clashes in the region where nearly 6,000 peasants fled from the fighting areas. As for us, we will continue our efforts to provide those refugees with some humanitarian aid. All in all, we can not say whether the situation of the cease-fire is worsening or improving [words indistinct] the UN forces cannot fully ensure that fighting will not occur. [end Akashi recording]

20th Mixed Military Group Meeting Reported

BK0706140592 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] On the afternoon of 1 June the Mixed Military Working Group held its 20th first-level meeting under the chairmanship of two-star Lieutenant General John Sanderson, commander of the forces of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC]. Present at the meeting were military representatives from all Cambodian parties, including three-star Lt. Gen. Phuong Siphan from the People's Army of the State of Cambodia [SOC]; General Pan Thai from the Army of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front; Brigadier General (Uong Bunthi) from the Army of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia; and Brig. Gen. Nuon Bunno from the Khmer Rouge faction.

The meeting further examined resolving the important issues on preparations for the start of phase two of the cease-fire. It also reviewed incidents of truce violations which keep occurring and the serious situation in Kulen District of Preah Vihear Province.

Lt. Gen. Sanderson pointed out that cease-fire violations, in particular the recent ones in Kulen District of Preah Vihear Province, which the Khmer Rouge faction committed, were very serious because they could cause a relapse in the situation. He said so far we had received reports on violations in Bavel District of Battambang Province between 14 and 19 May 1992, in which four women and three children were killed. And breaches also took place on 15 May 1992 in Tang Krasang of Kompong Cham Province where UNTAC forces were stationed.

Lt. Gen. Sanderson asked Mr. Nuon Bunno, the representative of the Khmer Rouge, to account for those incidents because at a meeting on 31 May he did not make any explanation at all. In his answer, the Khmer Rouge representative used the same excuse, saying that he had not yet received any explicit reports on those matters from the Khmer Rouge command or battlefields. He instead raised the same suggestions and conditions to UNTAC.

We can say that at present the Khmer Rouge is intensifying its barbarous activities by further committing gross violations. This is aimed at pressuring UNTAC into carrying out its proposals.

As for the SOC, it remains outstanding in compromising and making concessions with the view of sincerely respecting and implementing the Paris accord, thereby bringing about a veritable peace for the nation, motherland, and people.

Khmer Rouge Violations Detailed

BK0706024492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] During the 31 May special meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group [MMWG] of the four Cambodian factions to assess and resolve the serious situation caused by the Khmer Rouge faction from 28 through 31 May 1992 in Preah Vihear Province, Lieutenant General John Sanderson, commander of the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] forces, stressed that he certainly could no longer stand still while Cambodian people are dying and suffering losses.

He pointed out that due to the serious violations of the cease-fire accord committed by the Khmer Rouge faction against the State of Cambodia's [SOC] side in Preah Vihear Province 10 people and members of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] were killed and 17 others were wounded, 22 metric tons of rice and 22 houses were burned down, and a large quantity of property was destroyed. At the same time, over 6,000 people fled to take refuge elsewhere in a most tragic manner. This was just a part of the destruction that the Khmer Rouge troops caused to the innocent people in Kulen and Sangkum Thmei District of Preah Vihear Province alone. In addition to this, the Khmer Rouge had often committed violations in various other provinces, such as Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, Battambang, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, and Kampot Provinces, where they caused untold misery and tragedies to the people.

Also at this special meeting, Major [name indistinct], a military official with the UNTAC observation team, said that the UNTAC observation team in Preah Vihear Province reported that the Khmer Rouge troops fired several rounds of artillery shells into and launched an attack against the 2d Battalion of Preah Vihear Province posted near Kulen District forcing it to retreat from this position and the local people to flee from their homes.

The major added that according to a report he received at 0900 on 31 May, the Khmer Rouge continued to shell Kulen District and some shells landed in an area 50 km from the living quarters of the observers. The UNTAC observation team wanted to leave that area but could not do so because the Khmer Rouge planted many mines along the way.

Concerning the violations that the Khmer Rouge have been committing against the SOC faction, UNTAC Military Commander Lieutenant General John Sanderson firmly stressed that the Khmer Rouge have not complied with the Paris agreement. He said that such an attack with the use of many heavy weapons was certainly a well-organized and premeditated action against the CPAF's side and an intentional offense.

Lieutenant General John Sanderson added that as the start of the second phase was drawing near, what the Khmer Rouge faction did was very serious and inexcusable.

As a measure to resolve this provocative act in which immense arms were used, the UNTAC military commander declared that although the Khmer Rouge has not yet provided any explanation, based on the reports from the UNTAC observers and the CPAF faction, he would report to New York to let the UN secretary general know about the matter and the UN Security Council to discuss it and take measures. He also ordered the Khmer Rouge faction to immediately end this activity.

PRC Urges Khmer Rouge Cooperation in 2d Phase

BK0806131292 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1102 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 8—China on Sunday urged all members of Cambodia's Supreme National Council to cooperate in implementing the second phase of a United Nations peace plan, reports AFP.

Alluding to a Khmer Rouge refusal to lay down arms, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said "some concrete problems and divergence of views" must be resolved by the council and U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

"We call on all the parties in Cambodia, under the leadership of Prince Sihanouk, to cooperate closely with UNTAC with the sincerity for national reconciliation and the comprehensive implementation of the Paris agreement," he said in a statement carried by the state-run XINHUA NEWS AGENCY.

China and the four other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council—Britain, France, Russia and the United States—are concerned by the Khmer Rouge's refusal to lay down arms.

Long supported by China, the Khmer Rouge is demanding U.N. verification that all Vietnamese troops have left Cambodia before it can accept the second phase of the U.N. peace plan due to begin June 13.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said: "China will continue to work together with other members of the international community for the implementation of the Paris agreement and the advancement of the peace process in Cambodia."

UN Concerned at Khmer Rouge 'Intransigence'

BK0806072692 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0426 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 8—The five permanent members of the UN Security Council met Friday to discuss concerns over Khmer Rouge intransigence in applying Cambodia's peace plan, according to AFP.

The United States, China, France, Britain, and Russia are concerned over the refusal of the Khmer Rouge—the dominant resistance member during a 13-year civil war—to demilitarize under the second phase of the UN-sponsored peace plan until they are certain Vietnamese troops have left Cambodia.

During the meeting here Friday the ambassadors from the permanent council members expressed uneasiness over the Khmer Rouge refusal to "fully cooperate" with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia head Yasushi Akashi.

The Khmer Rouge contends that Vietnam, which first sent troops into Cambodia in 1978 to drive the Khmer Rouge from power, has not withdrawn all its fighters from the country.

The faction maintained demands at a meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) in Phnom Penh on Friday that the United Nations verify the departure of the troops, which Hanoi insists were pulled out in 1989.

The Khmer Rouge says it will not comply with UNTAC requirements for beginning the second phase of the peace plan, signed in October by the four warring factions, until such a verification is made.

SRV Ammunition Sent to Preah Vihear, Kompong Thom

BK0906021092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian
2330 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] According to a report, on 2 and 3 June, the Vietnamese aggressors sent three planeloads of ammunition and war materiel to their forces in Preah Vihear and Kompong Thom Provinces for them to carry on their operations to kill the people.

The report said the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction sent two planeloads of ammunition and war materiel to their forces at Rumchek and Choam Khsan in Preah Vihear Province and one planeload to their forces at Sala Visai in Kompong Svay District of Kompong Thom Province.

The report added that on 31 May, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction sent two planeloads of ammunition and war materiel to Rumchek.

Is this not a violation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement?

The people in Kompong Thom and Preah Vihear Provinces believe that if the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] and the Supreme National Council do not strictly and thoroughly verify the presence of Vietnamese aggressor forces along the Cambodian-Vietnamese border in Clause 1 Chapter A of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, the Vietnamese aggressor forces and their ammunition and war materiel will certainly keep flowing in to continue their war in Cambodia.

The people insist that the UNTAC and four Cambodian factions strictly and thoroughly check the Vietnamese aggressor forces along the eastern part of Cambodia to prevent the Vietnamese aggressors from bringing in ammunition to massacre our people.

SRV Operations Reported in North Battambang

BK0906031692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] On 28 June, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction in the 5th Military Region in Battambang Province sent 1,200 troops supported by cannon fire and BM-14 and BM-21 multiple rocket launchers to kill the people and seize the liberated zone from resistance forces in the north of Battambang Province in Sangke District.

On 31 May, the Vietnamese aggressor sent in a large number of their forces and the Phnom Penh faction for a bigger and more intense onslaught than the 27-28 May operations.

Also on 31 May, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction brought (?two) 122-mm and (?DK-30) cannons from an area near Battambang town and shelled the area to threaten the people there.

This clearly shows that the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction do not respect the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. In spite of the presence of the UN peacekeeping force, the Vietnamese aggressors were not afraid to violate the agreement. They have sought every means to realize the goals of their agreement, which is contrary to the 23 October 1991 Paris accord.

In such a situation, should the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces just stand there and allow the Vietnamese aggressors kill them at will?

Fighting at Phnum Kulen Continues 6 Jun

BK0806072492 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0421 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 8—Fighting continued Saturday between Khmer Rouge and Phnom Penh Government forces in the area of Phnum Kulen, in northern Cambodia, a United Nations military official was quoted by AFP as saying.

"Shooting continued this morning," the official, French General Michel Loridon, said on Saturday.

He was unable to give casualty figures.

More than 6,000 people have fled the combat zone to take refuge further east on the highway between Phnum Kulen and Tbeng Meancheay, Loridon said.

The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) is preparing an operation to come to the civilians' aid, he added.

However, another UN source said, UNTAC has yet to get a reply from the Khmer Rouge, which has been invited to help out in the humanitarian operation.

Elsewhere, the Phnom Penh government has in recent days reported to the United Nations the movement of Khmer Rouge fighters around Battambang, northwestern Cambodia, and Kompong Thom, in the center, Loridon said.

The United Nations is charged with implementing a peace accord signed last October between the Phnom Penh Government and the three resistance groups.

The Khmer Rouge, the strongest of the resistance groups, is accused of blocking the peace process by continuing to fight and by not fulfilling UNTAC conditions for putting phase two of the peace plan into effect.

Phase two, which should start June 13, calls for the cantonment and disarming of 200,000 troops from all sides, and the demobilization of 70 percent of them, paving the way for elections in April or May 1993.

Indonesia

Jakarta To Host Informal Meeting on Spratlys

BK0506152392 Hong Kong AFP in English 0454 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Jakarta, June 5 (AFP)—Indonesia plans to host a third informal meeting on potential conflicts in the South China Sea, including over the Spratlys, at the end of June, foreign ministry spokesman Suteja Kartawijaya said Friday.

The meeting will take place in Yogyakarta, central Java, from June 29 to July 2, Kartawijaya told AFP, adding that it would be informal in nature, with delegates from 10 countries attending "in their personal capacity."

Indonesia hosted the first workshop on the South China Sea on the holiday resort island of Bali in 1990 and the second last year in Bandung, some 200 kilometres (120 miles) southeast of here.

While billed as workshops on managing "potential conflicts," the first two gatherings concentrated on the existing multinational dispute over the Spratlys.

Brunei, China, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam have laid claim to all or part of the Spratlys, a strategically located group of coral reefs and islands in the South China Sea. The sea floor in the area is also believed to be rich in oil and gas deposits.

Kartawijaya said the six countries would take part in the workshop, together with Indonesia, Laos, Singapore and Taiwan.

The spokesman, however, declined to confirm reports from Malaysia that quoted his counterpart there as saying officials of the joint border commission planned to resume negotiations to settle a bilateral border dispute over the islands of Ligitan and Sipadan off the northeastern coast of Borneo.

Sudharmono on Helping SRV With Family Planning

BK0606052692 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0407 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Jakarta, June 6 (OANA-ANTARA)—Vice President Sudharmono, here on Friday dismissing as baseless reports that Indonesia intended to teach Vietnam how to implement family planning, said that all it wanted to do was sharing of experiences.

Indonesia does not consider itself a teacher in family planning as it still expected inputs from other countries, including Vietnam on efforts to make the program successful, the vice president said when receiving participants of a workshop on family planning in Indonesia and Vietnam. The workshop took place from May 26 to June 5 with 28 participants, 11 of whom were from Vietnam.

When paying a call on the vice president, they were accompanied by chief of the National Family Planning Coordinating Board (BKKBN), Haryono Suyono.

Cooperation between Indonesia and Vietnam in the field of family planning and population may function as the [words indistinct] cooperation in other sectors, Sudharmono said. He further said management of family planning was rather complicated and it also needed a comprehensive approach. Therefore, he added if cooperation in this field has been successful, so will those in others.

The vice president told the Vietnamese delegates led by Dr. Nguyen Luc that through its FP [family planning] program, Indonesia managed to reduce its population growth from 2.5 percent in the early 60's to 1.8 percent per year today.

Aside from that, we have also managed to make each family in Indonesia to have three children on the average, down from 5.6 children in the early 60's, he said. However, Indonesia's FP program is not merely aimed at curbing population growth. The main goal is turning out small, happy, and prosperous families, Sudharmono added.

Accord Signed with SRV

BK0606070692 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0618 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Jakarta, June 6 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia and Vietnam have agreed to realize the family planning cooperation as follow-up of the memorandum of understanding between the two countries signed recently.

The agreement was signed by National Family Planning Coordinating Board (BKKBN) Chairman Haryono Suyono and Standing Vice Chairman of the Vietnamese National Committee for Population and Family Planning (NCPFP) Nguyen Luc here Friday evening.

On the occasion, Haryono Suyono hoped that Vietnam could also make its family planning program successful, especially after a delegation of this country observed the implementation of family planning in Indonesia.

A senior-level workshop on the implementation of the April 11, 1992 memorandum of understanding between the two countries was also held in Jakarta from May 26 to June 5, 1992 to discuss this bilateral collaboration.

During the workshop, BKKBN and NCPFP had agreed to work together in the areas of training program, contraceptive supplies and medical equipment, technical assistance, and population information exchange.

Deputy [Chairman] for Planning and Analysis Program of BKKBN Abdullah Kholil disclosed that the establishment of the FP [family planning] cooperation was based among other things on the spirit of brotherhood between Indonesia and Vietnam as the two nations had a similar history of the fight for independence.

He also said that the Vietnamese Government gained the advantage from FP cooperation with Indonesia which had a high reputation in family planning in the world.

According to Kholil, Vietnam would study much from Indonesia in order to overcome its shortcomings in its family planning program so that the country could achieve its goal in a shorter time.

Reportage on General Elections Held on 9 Jun

Suharto Gives Pre-Election Speech

BK0806145992 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1215 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Speech by President Suharto on the eve of the 9 June general election; live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful and the Compassionate! My fellow countrymen! Peace be upon you!

The ninth of June 1992 will be a very important date for our nation because we will hold a general election. This will be the fifth general election during the New Order era. This shows that the democratic life continues to grow in our country. Every general election has its own characteristics and roles in the long history of the development of our nation. The 1992 general election has a special status because the People's Consultative Assembly [MPR] to be formed on the basis of the results of this general election will set a new broad outline of state policies. The forthcoming broad outline of state policies will serve as the basis of a series of five-year development plans for us to enter the 21st century. Other state bodies at the central and regional levels will perform their duties under the new strategy. As a nation that upholds the people's sovereignty, it is a right, an obligation, and also an honor for all Indonesians to elect their trusted representatives to sit and deliberate in the highest state institution.

My fellow countrymen! The 1971 general election led to the formation of the first MPR during the New Order era. This assembly set the strategy for the first long-term national development scheme which we are currently undertaking. The first long-term national development scheme [words indistinct] by the end of the Fifth Five-Year Development Plan. Despite various weaknesses in many fields, our nation as a whole has now possessed stronger national resilience in the ideological, political, economic, sociocultural, defense, and security fields. We are now prepared to enter a new era at home and abroad. At home, our people have achieved further progress and are having greater aspirations and interests. Thus, we need to adjust the national development stategy with the priorities of our people. The world has undergone many changes. There have been so many basic changes in various parts of the world. They have in turn brought about great effects on international relations and the life of the mankind. We are entering a new era which is opening up so many opportunities to achieve peace and welfare for all mankind through strong cooperation among nations. We need to set a new strategy which will enable us to take advantage of open opportunities in this new atmosphere. The new national development strategy for the next 25 years must be set by the MPR which we will form. What we need is a strategy capable of using our present unity, cohesion, and progress as a basis to attain our national aspirations and goals in the beginning of the next century. During the campaigning period, leaders of organizations contesting the general election at the central and regional levels outlined development concepts of their respective organizations for the coming decades. During the cooling-off period, every voter has enough time to think of and decide on the concepts offered by the sociopolitical forces to the Indonesian people. Subsequently, it is the sovereign people themselves who have the right to accept offers which they think are best suited for their nation and regions. Now, it is time for voters to make their decisions through polling booths.

My fellow countrymen! As in the previous general elections, this general election will be held in a direct, general, free, and confidential manner. Voters at home and abroad, including our brothers and sisters who are performing their hajj pilgrimage, will go to polling booths and later put their votes into polling boxes from 0800 to 1400 local time [0100 to 0700 GMT] on 9 June. These votes will be counted openly, and the results will be conveyed hierarchically from voting committees to district election committees, provincial election committees, and the Indonesian Election Committee. In accordance with the schedule, we will know the results of this general election as the political resolution of all the Indonesian people in the not too distant future. Based on these results, district houses of representatives, provincial houses of representatives, the House of Representatives, and the MPR will be formed. I would like to ask all members of voting groups as well as all witnesses who will monitor the voting process to perform their respective duties in an orderly and serious manner and in accordance with the rules to enable the voters to exercise their voting rights without any obstacles or disruptions. Finally, I would like to wish all voters—all sovereign Indonesians—happy voting! May God the Merciful and Compassionate always bless and guide us! Thank you and peace be upon you again!

Home Affairs Minister Previews Polls

BK0806121892 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1052 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Serang, June 8 (OANA/ANTARA)—Home Affairs Minister Rudini Monday, one day before the general elections, appealed to all concerned to put aside any suspicions regarding the system to be used in vote counting and collection of results.

Rejecting claims from some quarters that there is a possibility that the computers used for processing the figures might be manipulated, Rudini said that "computers are mere tools." Counting will still be based upon the official statements sent in from the regions.

He said interim counting would be done both by computer and other means, so that the results can be announced by 1930 [1230 GMT 9 June], when almost all of the votes are expected to have been counted.

"There is no value in being suspicious of each other as we have all been committed to making the general elections fair," he said.

A total of 291,337 polling centres are to be set up across the country's 27 provinces.

The chairman of the Indonesian Electoral Committee said there may some problems with collecting results from remote areas in Irian Jaya and East Kalimantan. The armed forces will assist with this process in Irian Jaya, while in East Kalimantan where transport is by water mobile polling stations are being set up.

Based on latest reports minister Rudini said that preparations in all the 27 provinces have been completed.

"All communications equipment, computers, and ballot papers have been distributed to the regions and are ready for use on election day," he said.

Minister Rudini reiterated that no polling booths should be set up in government buildings or in state school buildings.

Polling will open at eight am and is expected to be finished by two pm.

Election Voting Begins

BK0906025892 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0200 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Indonesian citizens, in great numbers, are going to the polling centers this morning to exercise their right to vote in the 1992 general election.

However, let us convey this information to you. Yesterday, Singgih, the chairman of the 1992 election supervisory committee, accompanied by leaders of the three political parties, visited the center for vote counting and compilation of results and checked on the preparations for a coordinated communications systems. On the occasion, Singgih reminded voters that if they violated voting regulations such as marking more than one cross, they are liable to be jailed for five years.

Suharto Assures Citizens

BK0906104392 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1006 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Jakarta, Jun 09 (OANA/ANTARA)—President Suharto on Tuesday assured that there would be no vote manipulation during the June 9 general elections.

The people witness the vote counting process and that there is no need to suspect one another, the head of state said.

Soon after casting vote, President Suharto accompanied by Mme. Tien Suharto inspected polling activities in some places, including on Jl. [Street] Rasuna Said here and Jl. Nusantara, Depok south of here.

Few people said insufficient number of witnesses in each polling booth might give opportunities for vote rigging. Each political organization should ideally send three witnesses to a polling booth.

[The] president confirmed that there was a political organisation which had sent only two witnesses to a polling booth he inspected.

But he assured that the insufficient number of witnesses would not allow opportunies for vote manipulation in the vote counting process.

The head of state said the polling activities in general went on as expected, and this situation reflected the people's high political awareness.

He expressed gratitude to and praised the elections organizing committee (KPPS) and the National Elections Committee (LPU) for their hard work to ensure the success of the elections.

The president and Mme. Tien Suharto accompanied by sons and daughters arrived at the polling booth at 0805 am.

President Suharto and his party later travelled around Jakarta, and the first polling booth he visited was one in front of the National Development Planning Board (Bappenas) on Jl. Imam Bonjol.

The president then continued his trip to Rasuna Said, Gatot Subroto, Sudirman, Blok M, Cilandak, and Sawangan.

Thai Editorial on Elections, Economy

BK0906031992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Jun 92 p 4

[Editorial: "Indonesia's Game It Calls Democracy"]

[Text] There are no opinion polls predicting the outcome of today's legislative elections in Indonesia because none are necessary. Of the only three parties legally permitted in Indonesia, the all-powerful government Golkar Party traditionally wins the elections after engaging in a friendly tussle with the Muslim-based United Development Party, PPP, and the Christian-nationalist Indonesian Democratic Party, PDI. Citizens vote for a party, not individuals, with each party having a slate in the 27 provinces, with a priority ranking for individual candidates based on a percentage of the total vote.

Elections elsewhere might be a source of nail-biting suspense, but the excitement today in the world's fourth most populous nation will be confined to speculation on the size of the ruling party's win and if it will enjoy a majority similar to its victory in 1987, when it collected 73 percent of the votes and 299 of 400 contested seats. Even a small decline in support for Golkar would be considered significant, although few see it in danger of suffering any real erosion of power.

In this, the sixth election since Indonesia declared independence from the Dutch in 1945, and the fifth since Gen Suharto took power with military backing in 1966, there are no major election issues. The opposition parties have made their usual clarion call for greater freedom of expression and for a truly effective crackdown on corruption and business monopolies. Golkar—backed by the civil service and military—have promoted themselves by telling everyone how well-off they are and why they shouldn't rock the boat.

All three contesting parties support the president and, under the rules, don't do anything to offend the Suharto administration. In return, the government helps finance all three parties and screens their 2,283 nominees just to make sure that no "genuine" dissidents likely to upset the apple cart creep in among them. The military, who are not allowed to vote today, will have 100 of their members appointed to parliament. Next March, these 500 parliamentarians join with 500 regional officials and public figures to select the president, vice president and approve generalised state policy.

The 71-year-old president is being unusually coy and refuses to publicly declare whether he will be a candidate or not. However, few doubt his willingness or ability to run for a further five-year term. Nor that he would fail to be given the opportunity. After all, Indonesia's younger generation has never known anyone else at the helm and the rural areas are steeped in a conservative tradition where families tend to vote as a unit. Preservation of the status quo has become a way of life.

As a democratic exercise, today's electoral process leaves much to be desired. Critics dismiss it as a contrived ritual that is useful only to let off steam, while supporters say it provides training for an eventual return to true civilian rule. They are rather vague about a time frame for quite understandable reasons. The real problem with these elections lies not so much in the tepid election campaign with its inevitable outcome, but in the overall ineffectiveness of the parliament to which the successful candidates will be elected. It doesn't initiate its own legislation but acts mainly as a sounding board for public grievances and to ratify—some would say rubber stamp—government policies.

The soundly-managed economy is doing well, fueled by the country's reserves of oil and natural gas. But despite the burgeoning middle class, Indonesia largely remains an agrarian society. Although great improvements have been made in the country's infrastructure and living standards since Gen Suharto became president, Indonesia remains, at heart, a nation of mostly poor rice farmers. But even this could change. The World Bank says that the country could leave the ranks of the world's poor and nearly double the income of its population by the end of the decade. But the Bank has warned that Jakarta must open up its economy, be more efficient, improve the local infrastructure and deal with a huge current account deficit and increasing foreign debt. Even then, to achieve such a target, reduce poverty and absorb over two million people joining the workforce every year, Indonesia's gross domestic product (GDP) will need to grow 5-6 percent a year compared to 6.8 percent last year.

The World Bank report didn't dwell on the necessity for political stability in achieving these goals. But then it didn't really need to.

Opposition Leaders View Elections

BK0906102992 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0934 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Jakarta, June 9 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesians in Japan and Malaysia Tuesday morning also cast their votes in the 1992 general elections (pemilu), the country's sixth since independence from Dutch colonialism in 1945. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, chairman of the nationalist Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) Suryadi expressed his disappointment that many polling station observers from his party were rejected by the provincial electoral committee.

This may lead to manipulation of ballot count which will inflict losses on the PDI, he said.

Describing the situation as a challenge to democracy, Suryadi refused to comment on his electoral target.

It will be difficult to set any target under such condition, he said.

Unlike Suryadi, Ismail Hasan Metareum, general chairman of the Muslim-based PPP [United Development Party] praised this year's general elections which he said are of better quality than the previous ones thanks to the government's political will.

He did not want to comment on the possible rigging of in the pemilu, saying that he would not make any response unless he received official complaints.

Voters cast their ballots by punching a hole in the symbol of the party of their choice and then placing the ballots in the provided boxes.

The ballot papers contain the symbols of each of the three parties which have also been given a numerical order.

PPP with the symbol of a five point star is number one, Golkar [Functional Group] with its banyan tree symbol is number two, and PDI with a bull's head symbol is number three.

Chairman of the National Electoral Committee Home Affairs Minister H. Rudini earlier expressed the hope that the percentage of those participating in this year's pemilu would improve from almost 90 percent in 1987.

However, political analysts have warned of a possible decline due to an increasing number of people preferring to abstain from voting.

Retired General Calls for Leadership Change

BK0706074692 Hong Kong AFP in English 0708 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Jakarta, June 7 (AFP)—Indonesia should be led in the next five years by a generation of leaders younger than that which took part in the country's independence, a prominent retired general has said.

"My advice is, the old ones should not take part again. They should remain silent and not interfere," Sumitro, who once headed the now-defunct internal security agency KOPKAMTIB, said in an interview with the EDITOR weekly.

He was referring to the so-called Forty-Five Generation that was involved in Indonesia's struggle for independence from Dutch colonial rule in the years following World War II.

President Suharto, who turns 71 on Monday, Vice President Sudharmono, 65, and government's three coordinating ministers are all members of the Forty-Five Generation.

Suharto and Sudharmono's five-year terms in office are to end in 1993. Describing 1993-98 as a transitional period for Indonesia, Sumitro, who has also been former deputy chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces, said the country's next political elite should consist of "fresh blood."

"According to me, the political elite which created the previous era will not be able to generate changes, (as they are) hostages of whatever they have created," he said.

Sumitro added, however, that his "sense of reality" made him accept the fact that some members of the Forty-Five Generation would remain members of the political elite.

Suharto, unopposed as president since he rose to power in 1967, has yet to indicate whether he would seek election for a sixth term in office, though it is widely believed that he will. Sumitro indicated it was too late to expect Suharto to renounce presenting himself for another term in 1993.

"We cannot make a sudden turn now. The car is already speeding straight, the plane is already on automatic pilot," he said. But he added that with six months to go before his current term ends, Suharto should say clearly whether or not he wants to run again, and thus encourage potential candidates to come forward.

Laos

Joint Border Committee With China Meets 6 Jun

BK0806110492 Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Vientiane, June 8 (KPL)— The joint border committees of Laos and China held here on June 6 their third meeting.

Heading the Lao side was Mr. Chaleun Valinthalasak, acting director of the Foreign Ministry's Department 1, and the Chinese side was Mr. Xu Wenyu, ambassador attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The meeting was a follow-up consultation to review the recent demarcation on about 500 kilometers common border line with the use of 58 border posts. The two sides also discussed the content of the permanent border agreement aimed to build Lao-Chinese border a border of peace, friendship, and cooperation to meet the desire of the Lao and Chinese peoples.

The settlement of the border issue over the past two years has improved the relations between the two countries.

Vientiane-Chiang Mai Flights Inaugurated 6 Jun

BK0706093392 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Yesterday morning, the foreign flights division of the Lao Airways Company held a ceremony for an inauguration flight from the Lao capital city of Vientiane to Thailand's northern province of Chiang Mai.

More than 100 invited guests of honor, mass media representatives, and tourists participated in the inauguration flight.

The Lao Airways Company will operate regular flights between Vientiane and Chiang Mai once a week every Wednesday from 10 June onwards. A Boeing-737 jet passenger aircraft will be used for the new route, for which each flight will take only 40 minutes.

From now on each week the Boeing-737 jet planes of the Lao company will thus operate flights to service passengers travelling from Vientiane to a total of five foreign destinations and vice versa. The flights are: Vientiane-Bangkok every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday; Vientiane-Hanoi every Tuesday; Vientiane-Chiang Mai every Wednesday; and Vientiane-Ho Chi Minh City-Phnom Penh every Friday.

Deputy Prime Minister Meets Thai Crown Prince

BK0906080792 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] According to a report from Bangkok, at 1705 yesterday at a palace in Bangkok, the capital of the Kingdom of Thailand, Thongloun Sisoulit, deputy foreign minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], and Bounkeut Sangsomsak, LPDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Kingdom of Thailand, were granted an audience by His Royal Highness [HRH] Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon.

During the audience, acting on behalf of the Lao Government and people, Thongloun Sisoulit informed HRH the Crown Prince of the preparations made by the Lao Governmennt and people to welcome him during his coming official visit to the LPDR.

As is known, representing their majesties King Phumiphon Adunyadet and the Queen of the Kingdom of Thailand, HRH Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon will pay an official friendship visit to the LPDR from 13 to 19 June at the invitation of His Excellency LPDR President Kaysone Phomvihan.

Foreign Minister Attends Reception for Sweden

BK0806110292 Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Vientiane, June 8 (KPL)—The Swedish Charge d'Affaires A.I. Mr. Per Gustav Kokeritz, hosted here on June 6 a reception on the national day of Sweden.

Attending the reception were Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, vice prime minister and minister for foreign affairs of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], Lao senior officials, and diplomatic corps here.

Phoun Sipaseut expressed at the function his pleasure to see the development of the effective ties of cooperation and assistance between Laos and Sweden. He also expressed congratulations and best wishes to the government and people of Sweden for success in their national development.

The Lao vice premier also wished the solidarity and cooperation between Laos and Sweden blossom.

Thongsing Thammavong Attends Arbor Day Ceremony

BK0606135492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] On the occasion of the National Arbor Day, 1 June, Thongsing Thammavong, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, attended a ceremony held in Lamam District, Sekong Province, to mark the beginning of tree-planting season. The ceremony was also attended by chairmen of the provincial and district administrations along with more than 100 cadres of various services from throughout the district. On this occasion, a total of 370 saplings of different types, including timber and Indian laburnum trees were planted.

At the same time, more than two hectares of land in the Peng Louang area, Sekong Province, have also been prepared for tree planting on this occasion.

Philippines

Spokesman on Japan Joining Cambodian Peace Force

HK0706080092 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0730 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Malacanang is hoping that Japan remains as a friend and benefactor of the Philippines. This was Press Secretary Horacio Paredes' reaction to reports saying that a Japanese parliamentary committee has approved a proposal to send a 2,000-strong Japanese contingent to Cambodia's peace keeping force. Paredes stated there is nothing to worry about Japan becoming a military power and added that the Japanese Constitution opposes war as an instrument in maintaining relations with other countries. He said that even if Japan became a military power again, it will always support peaceful measures for resolving the world's problems.

Government Joins With Group of 77 at Earth Summit

HK0806041092 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 8 Jun 92 P 1

[Text] The Philippines is joining other developing countries under the Group of 77 in supporting a host of environmental concerns, including the biodiversity convention, in the ongoing Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Fulgencio Factoran yesterday left for Rio de Janeiro to represent the Philippines in the summit, formally known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

Factoran is expected to arrive there today in time for the resumption of debates on the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.

The document, one of the summit's major outputs, is made up of 27 statements of principles governing sustainable development policies, legislations, and programs; global environmental and developmental collaboration; liability and compensation issues; natural resources accounting; and recognition of the rights and aspirations of indigenous communities.

Aimee Gonzales, Factoran's chief executive assistant, said last week that the Philippines will align with the Group of 77 in virtually all major environmental issues, including the controversial biodiversity convention.

Factoran is among over 120 heads of state and official delegates expected to sign the agreement which aims to preserve plant and animal species that are becoming extinct at a rate of 100 to 300 a day.

Group members have accused the United States of "watering down" provisions of the treaty.

U.S. President George Bush said he is not signing the treaty because it threatened the interests of American chemical and commercial companies which depend on tropical plants for their patents and products.

Most developing countries, however, feel the treaty is crucial in preserving their natural resources and strengthening sovereign rights over them.

Gonzales said the Philippines is seeking to include in the Rio Declaration provisions that will strengthen sovereign control of countries over their resources and provide for mechanisms for technology transfers among developed and developing countries.

She said the Philippines is also expected to go along with most countries in seeking a funding mechanism for international environmental and development programs.

Intelligence Report Reveals New Coup Plot

HK0906094792 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Jun 92

[By Rodney Jaleco]

[Excerpt] A plan by Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union [RAM-SFP-YOU] rebels to attack Fort Magsaysay and other military camps in northern Luzon has allegedly failed according to a top secret intelligence report.

The military rebels allegedly planned to bomb chosen targets inside the 7th Division Headquarters at Fort Bonifacio, Nueva Ecija; the Northern Luzon Command headquarters in Tarlac; and other military camps in Northern Luzon as part of their destabilization activities designed to stop the scheduled proclamation of the winners of the 11 May national elections.

The plan was allegedly conceived during a meeting held recently at the vacation house of a prominent Nueva Ecija politician. The meeting was presided over by leaders of the

RAM-SFP-YOU and attended by seven military officials and 14 enlisted men from the 7th Division.

The RAM leaders said during the meeting that remote-control explosives and land mines had already been planted at Fort Magsaysay and were ready for detonation as soon as they received a coded signal that would launch this new destabilization plot. The signal was to be aired on a radio station in Metro Manila.

After the signal had been given, some of the rebels were to steal four Huey helicopter to airlift other rebels to different military camps in northern Luzon to conduct commando raids. Others were to go to Baler, Aurora to fetch weapons smuggled by the rebels from Korea. The weapons would have been distributed to their colleagues in Quezon, Nueva Ecija, and San Idelfonso, Bulacan, where more massive RAM movements were planned. [passage omitted]

AFP Admits Reports of Rebel Soldiers-NPA Link

HK0806102292 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] has confirmed a tie-up between the rebel soldiers and a political party to launch a destabilization move against the government. Rodney Jaleco reports:

[Begin Jaleco recording] A high-ranking Armed Forces official has admitted he has received reports regarding a link between the rebel soldiers and a political party.

Brigadier General Alfredo Filler, AFP intelligence chief, said he received the reports but these have not yet been verified. The official admitted there were troop movements during the past days but these were only part of normal precautionary measures following the disclosure of the No Proclamation plot which would be carried out by a joint force of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [NPA] and the Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance- Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union. The plot includes the assassination of former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos.

According to Filler, he is still looking into the veracity of the reports. He warned that if the rebels are pressed for time, they may launch terrorist attacks only to show they can still destabilize the nation. He said the rebel group is gradually losing its moderates who are being replaced by hardliners.

Military—Japanese Red Army Helps NPA Rebels

HK0806125092 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 8 May 92

[By Rodney Jaleco]

[Text] According to a high-ranking official at Camp Aguinaldo, an international terrorist group is reportedly helping the New People's Army [NPA] purchase modern electronic equipment. Brigadier General Romeo Padiernos, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] Civil Relations Service commander, said they have received several intelligence reports confirming that the Japanese Red Army [JRA] has been helping the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP]-NPA.

According to Padiernos, the JRA reportedly sold and gave the CPP-NPA computers, facsimile machines, laptop computers, and a radio transmitter, which the Melito Glor Command used in Quezon to broadcast their propaganda. He added that AFP intelligence has also been monitoring two Caucasians and two Japanese nationals, believed to be members of the JRA, who have been entering and leaving the country frequently since 1989.

Padiernos assailed the CPP-NPA for their links with the JRA, which has been involved in several terrorist incidents, and condemned the intervention of foreigners in the internal problems of the Philippines.

The AFP official said most of this equipment has already been confiscated by the military in the different raids on rebels and arrests of communist leaders in Metro Manila.

Ramos Comments on Alleged Assassination Plot

HK0906031692 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 9 Jun 92 p 9

[By Stella Ruth Conzales]

[Text] Winning presidential candidate Fidel V. Ramos yesterday [8 June] said the statement of the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance] (RAM) that it will "not spare any bullets" for him "deserves no further comment" even as he reminded the public that the RAM comprises only "a very small minority" of former military men in the underground.

In an interview, Ramos also said the public should realize that the RAM was merely "hoping to create a bigger image than what it really is."

Ramos, who met with local political leaders from various political parties in a Makati hotel yesterday, was reacting to a RAM statement saying that rebel soldiers were not planning to assassinate Ramos because "he is its number one recruiter."

"Ramos is more advantageous to the RAM alive than dead," said a statement signed by Gabriel Dipasupil, RAM spokesman. The RAM denied forging a tactical alliance with communist guerillas to assassinate Ramos.

Ramos said he need not comment on the RAM statement because "if there is no (assassination) plot, then I'm very happy." He, however, added that the RAM was only one group of former soldiers now operating in the underground, implying that some other groups may be involved in the slay plot.

Ramos and military and police intelligence confirmed last week that there was indeed an assassination plot against the Lakas-NUCD [Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats] standard bearer and other destabilization attempts to prevent him from assuming the presidency.

But Ramos said it was now up to military and police authorities "to deal with those in the underground."

Ramos admitted beefing up his security amid the slay plots but said he now has to depend on the authorities "to provide this for me" because he could not afford to hire more security men.

Asked if reports that his security was breached last week when a RAM member entered the Lakas office undetected, Ramos said the report still had to be verified. [sentence as published]

"Let us not give them too much credit, I'm still here diba [isn't it]?," he noted.

Ramos said his meeting with political leaders would give local executives from far-flung areas a chance to have access to him.

Officials Confirm Assassination Plot

HK0906070792 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 9 Jun 92 p 3

[By Joey Caburnida]

[Text] Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Lisandro Abadia and Philippine National Police Deputy Director General Gerardo Flores yesterday categorically confirmed the existence of a plot to kill presidential frontrunner Fidel Ramos to stop his official proclamation by Congress as the country's next president.

Ramos himself had earlier confirmed the existence of the plot after he was alerted by his security officers on a possible hit by rebel commandos at his residence in Ayala-Alabang Village in Muntinlupa [Metro Manila].

Ramos claimed he has no adequate capability to generate his own personal security as he depended much on the military and the police for his personal safety. But he tried to water down the rebels' threat saying the rightwing rebels "is a very small minority of ex-military hoping to create a bigger image than what they are."

It was the first time Abadia and Flores openly confirmed the supposed assassination plot, though they could not say at this point whether the plot was coming from either rightist or leftist rebels. "One thing is definite, there is really a plot to assassinate Mr Ramos. But as to the perpetrators, we are not very sure ye'," Abadia told reporters at Camp Aguinaldo.

He said raw information they had received indicates an alliance between rightist and lefist elements.

In a separate interview, Flores said, "There are reports that they (rightist and leftist rebels) are attempting to meet. But unfortunately, our asset was not able to get the details of what was really the plan."

On the reported unauthorized movement of troops from military camps, the two military officials said these still needed verification.

Flores said he could see some logic behind a possible alliance between the Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM] and communist insurgents to kill Ramos.

Flores explained that the RAM and the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army] have found a common ground against Ramos. "It appears that they both have objection to Ramos being in power, because they might become irrelevant under a Ramos administration."

He said under the new leadership of Ramos, both rightist and leftist rebels would be deprived of the causes they have been fighting for, since Ramos would be in a position to improve the armed forces, increase the salaries of law enforcers, and improve the socio-economic condition of people, particularly in insurgency- affected areas in the countryside.

President Aquino Views Achievements, Elections

HK0906083392 Quezon City ABS-CBN 2 Television in English 1430 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Interview with President Corazon Aquino by a joint panel comprised of "Options" host journalist Teodoro Benigno, with Antonio Abaya, Melinda Quintos de Jesus, and Cheche Lazaro of Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-TV Arts Network at Malacanang Palace on the "Options" program—live or recorded; italicized passages in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] [Benigno] Good evening. We have an unusual show tonight, a joint presentation by and line [as heard] on Channel 7 and Options helped to stage right here in Malacanang Palace. My co-panelists are Tony Abaya, Melinda Quintos de Jesus and Cheche Lazaro of Channel 7. The two [words indistinct] for Channel 2.

Now, my normal co-host Oscar Orbos is on vacation right now abroad; so, he is not here.

We have a very special guest here tonight. Her Excellency President Corazon C. Aquino who is stepping down after six years in Malacanang. Welcome, Mrs. President.

[Aquino] Thank you very much, Teddy. This is really such an honor and a pleasure for me.

[Benigno] Mrs. President, if I may break the ice into the interrogation—six years, looking back, with all the heartaches, all the weight on your shoulders, and the banging of media, how do you feel? Was it worth it? Can you now look Ninoy Aquino in the eye and tell him, I put a good fight and I won?

[Aquino] Not only Ninoy Aquino, but many other people, because after all when I ran in the snap elections, I had said that I wanted to restore democracy with the help of the people. Certainly, we have restored it. We have strengthened it, and the fact that we have had generally peaceful and orderly elections attests to the fact that we Filipinos are now politically mature.

[Lazaro] Mrs. President, many people must be wondering out there, in your six years as president, was there ever a time when you felt like running away from your job, like giving up—holding up your hands and saying I have had enough.

[Aquino] No. Although I was praying that things would change for the better. During the coup attempts, of course, I was always hoping that it would be the last of the coup attempts and that we would be able to get around to finally accepting the fact that this is democracy and this is what people want. However, there was never a time that I can think of that I said okay, I've had it. *I am tired and I am leaving.* That never came to me because I did ask for the people to vote for me and for me to serve them. So, there was that on track for six years and of course a bonus from February to June because our Constitution mandates that we will be synchronized in the elections from now on.

[Benigno] Mrs. President, in hindsight, looking back in six year's time and if you were given a second chance, what are the things that you did that you would not do the second time around, and what did you not do that you would do the second time around?

[Aquino] Well, of course Tony, the experience that I have had these past six years will put me in a better position to choose people who will serve government, based also on their track record. Remember that when I assumed office, I did not have the luxury of time. There was no transition period. In fact, it was not only that we had to make appointments right away and if we did not do so, then whoever was in charge then might try to run away with some important documents or worse still, mount some opposition against the newly installed government.

[Abaya] Are you saying, Mrs. President, that you were unhappy with some of the people at that time?

[Aquino] Well, given that nobody ever makes perfect choices and I always like to think that Jesus Christ himself could not choose 12 perfect people, who is Cory Aquino to say that she can do better? [laughter] But, I was saying that in fairness, also to some of those who were appointed early on, the others who came after have the benefit of the experiences of their predecessors. So, they could improve on those. They could avoid their mistakes and, in fact, could improve on whatever their predecessors have done. So, in fairness to the earlier appointees, we can say that their successes profited from what they have done.

[Quintos de Jesus] [passage omitted] Was there any kind of advice that you finally got that you thought most valuable, solicited or unsolicited?

[Aquino] Well, my government, as I promised the people, would be one of consultation. So, I did consult with a great number of people, in particular the different sectors like the labor groups, the peasants sector, the urban poor; and also the businessmen. I would consult with them. Maybe the difference is that when you are president, considering that I already said that I do not like unsolicited advice, I am still getting a lot of it. And, you get it in the mail, you read it in the different columns. But, I think it is important for me to continue with the business of consultations, where I would call for a meeting; and I, in particular, am grateful that I did call for tripartite meetings with labor and management. I would meet separately with them and then I would meet with all of them. The same thing with whenever I would meet with the peasant group, then I would ensure that the cabinet ministers, who would be most concerned with their particular problems would be present to resolve at least some, if not most, of their concerns. [passage omitted]

[Abaya] Mrs. President, in view of our current problems with energy, was it, in hindsight, a good decision to scrap the Ministry of Energy and what were the steps leading to that decision?

[Aquino] Well, yes, that was not too good a decision. For something as important as energy, we needed a full-time ministry plus a man who would be, as I said, really devoting and coordinating all efforts in this direction. I think it was also in reaction to what had happened in the previous administration and where, you know, the talk then was that it was just such a source of graft, and so I think this is why I was convinced by my advisers that it would be better not to continue with the Ministry of Energy. But, I believe there are now pending bills in Congress, and with the problems we are having now, I am sure that the apparent president-elect will probably certify these bills as urgent.

[Abaya] Mrs. President, what about the nuclear power plant? Would you have scrapped it if you were given a second chance?

[Aquino] Right now, we have a panel trying to work out an agreement with the Westinghouse people. At that time, Westinghouse was not willing to help at all in the matter of making this plant operable and insuring that it is safe, plus the fact that Westinghouse is agreeing also to operate the plant, which was never there before. So, all of these matters are being studied and it would be the incoming congress that will have to approve this agreement.

[Lazaro] What is your reaction, Mrs. President, when people bring up this energy crisis as having marred the gains of your administration? Do you think this is terribly unfair, do you have an answer that you would like people to hear when this is confronted, when you have to confront this seemingly terrible crisis that we are going through at the end of your term?

[Aquino] Well, maybe this had to happen so that not only government but also the different sectors can appreciate the problem and can work toward a fast tracking of all of these programs and projects. I am in particular concerned about the... [Aquino changes thought] when you talk of public acceptability, because in a number of instances the projects have been delayed because there was no public acceptability. Now, we cannot also blame the people living in the areas, which would be directly affected by the environmental problems. So, it is good that lately what we have done is to meet with the people themselves, the Napocor [National Power Corporation] officials meet with the people and many times they ask for the help of local government officials. I think this is important so that we can hear what the concerns of the people are and if their concerns are really based on hard evidence or if such concerns would indeed materialize. In fact, in the case of the Masinloc coal plant, we have been having problems because people are so afraid that even their source of livelihood will be affected. They rely on fishing mostly and they were afraid that with the establishment of this plant their source of livelihood would be seriously affected.

So, during these last weeks of my administration, I have given instructions to Pat de la Paz for him to be present when I call the local officials; these will include Governor Deloso and the mayor of Masinloc. In some instances like in the Mt. Apo project, where they could be sufficiently explained to the people and where they could look for some remedy in order to reduce the hazards of pollution, then you are able to talk in a better and a more conducive manner. Because it is also not fair for the government to just go through with projects without consulting with the people who will be affected. It is also our contention that perhaps some of the fears of the people in that area are not grounded on hard facts. So we, in fact I, have been telling them, perhaps we can show them some of these plants which operate in other countries if only to assure them that we will never impose something on them which will contribute to the damage. So, these were some of the delaying factors. But in fact it was Ernie Aboitiz, who was then at Napocor, who was telling me that Ma'am I'm just sorry I didn't realize how important it was for me to be dealing directly with you and to get your help in the matter of getting other government agencies or other sectors to be cooperating with them. Then, of course, under a democracy, we go into a public bidding and then there are instances where the losing bidders complain and go to court or those things which would further delay the projects. [passage omitted]

[Benigno] *Mrs. President, during the times when life was lonely in the Palace and you needed encouragement, did you have bedside books to read or did you have people close to you whom you could consult? In your family, for example, is Pete your pillar of strength? Perry, for example—I know they are very close to you.*

[Aquino] I think it is mostly my children themselves. I think they are closer to me than any of my brothers and sisters. Also, because they have undergone with me the years of incarceration and the assassination, and after that. [passage omitted]

[Lazaro] I am sure that in your presidency, which demands a lot of confidentiality, there are many things that you cannot say...[changes thought] What's your sounding board or where did you receive a sigh of relief or where did you breathe deeply when you had all these concerns bothering you?

[Aquino] Well, there are a number of people who help me. Take for example my present Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon, I have confided in him a number of matters including my choice of Eddie Ramos. He had known about it earlier than quite a number of people. Also, in the matter of appointing people in government, I had consulted with other members of the Cabinet.

[Abaya] Suppose there is a delay in the proclamation of the next president for whatever reason, would you be serving as an interim president until the next president eventually is proclaimed.

[Aquino] No. I am assured by congress that they will be able to proclaim, as he is being referred to now as the president apparent, Eddie Ramos long before June 30. So, there will be no need for a law to be passed, which was sponsored by Senator Joey Lina; and this, in fact, lays down the order of succession in case there is no president elect or vice president elect proclaimed.

[Quintos de Jesus] Was making the choice for your endorsement, Mrs. President, a difficult decision that led you now, more or less, where you would be leading toward and it is only a matter of time to tell the public?

[Aquino] No. It was difficult in the sense that I know that almost all these presidential candidates had been members of my Cabinet at one time or another, and my relationship with them goes way beyond my being president. So, it was a difficult choice; but in the end, I just asked myself the question, if that choice is somebody that I can defend to the death—you know—*is this the candidate who I honestly believe is the best among the candidates and who will pursue the good programs we have started for the people, particularly the Kabisig [partnership] programs or projects. Can this person work with the nongovernment organizations [NGO's]?*

[Benigno] Did you agonize in this choice Mrs. President? For example, did it take you some time to discourage in favor of Eddie as against Monching Mitra? [sentence as heard] Finally, when you had to make your choice, did you suffer a lot?

[Aquino] Yes. It was difficult. Conventional wisdom, I would say that Monching Mitra had a better chance of winning because, of course, everybody accepts the fact that the LDP [Struggle of Filipino Democrats] has the best-oiled political machinery. On the other hand, *if my chosen candidate wins, there is no problem.* Nobody will be blaming me. *But, if my chosen one loses, for certain I will be accused of everything.* I can easily accept these accusations if I believe in what I did. It is difficult to choose, say Mitra, because that is a *practical way of deciding. I think in the sense that in the end when I ask myself whether I truly believe that this would be the best candidate, then it was easier. But it was also difficult for me to explain to people. But I realized that I was going to cause a lot of, not only disappointment but, of course, some friction among these people who have supported me.*

[Quintos de Jesus] *Were you hurt* when some members of your family did not support you in this particular decision? Let us talk about members of your family including your in-laws.

[Aquino] *It is just natural that if you embark on something, you want your whole family to be with you.* However, the fact of the matter is that in the Aquino family, it is only Maur who was, like me, supporting Eddie Ramos. But, I always said that certainly, I respect their decisions and the manner in which they arrived at the decision and I hope that they will also respect me. It would have been a lot easier if we supported one candidate. *In Tarlac, the people had difficulty choosing because my brother Peping was for Mitra and I for Eddie Ramos,* plus the fact that my cousin was also a presidential candidate. [passage omitted]

[Abaya] In the election, there were several show biz personalities who were elected. Is this good or bad for our political system? What is your recommendation for the next congress in order to control?

[Aquino] *Like any other sector,* we cannot say, like you in the media, I cannot say that all of you are excellent or all of you are good. There are the undesirables. *This is true with the entertainment world. There are the good and the mediocre. So, it really depends on us to choose who really is good and who can work for the people's interests.* No organization or sector can claim perfection among its rank. So, let us think of what we should do to motivate people of your likes to enter politics. [passage omitted]

[Benigno] Cheche has been asking about, I think, a very important question to ask.

[Lazaro] Yes, I think many people are wondering, Mrs. President, what do you consider as your greatest achievement as president of this Republic?

[Aquino] Well, the restoration and preservation of democracy and people empowerment. I think it is only under my administration where the power of the people has been recognized and they have been given not only the responsibility, but more importantly the authority to help in some of the major decisions affecting them.

[Lazaro] We all know that democracy takes a long time to really fully flower. What steps can be taken to hasten that process, to bring it to its fullest bloom?

[Aquino] Well, I think the education of the people. To tell them exactly what democracy is all about and how it can help them. Again, I am basing this on what we have done with regard to empowering the people.

Under my administration, we gave 25 percent representation to the private sector, meaning the nongovernmental organizations and the people's organizations in the regional development councils, the provincial development councils, and in the municipal development councils. This was never done in the past. Also, because I had initiated the president social fund, which of course derives its funds from the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation, we worked in collaboration with people's organizations. [sentence as heard] We asked them to help us in building schools, in constructing water wells, and also in the matter of making funds available to them for livelihood projects. So, I am very pleased that because of this more people were interested in organizing themselves. In seeing that by forming organizations, they were better able to help themselves to become self-reliant. These are, perhaps, I will consider my major contributions. And, also the fact that under our Constitution we have free secondary education, we have been able to reach that many more of our people and provide them with the education that they need.

Also, we have, because of the Land Bank of the Philippines' policy of lending to farmers' cooperatives...[Aquino changes thought] Before my administration, only 14,000 farmers were able to avail of loans from Land Bank. Now, 500,000 farmers are able to have access to loans, which of course has helped them.

Now, I realize only too well that we have done something but it is still not enough. So I am hoping, and in fact this is what I would like to do after my presidency, I am hoping that we can interest more and more of the private sector to help in the organization of these cooperatives, in the organization of nongovernment organizations. It's a very difficult thing to organize. And I think, Teddy, you were with me in Nueva Ecija....

[Benigno, interrupting] Yes.

[Aquino] ...when the priest who had organized the foundation day was saying that the people are not in a capacity to be organizing themselves. So, you need help not only from....

[Benigno, interrupting] That was Fr. Mangahas, right?

[Aquino] Yes, that was Fr. Mangahas. So, if we had many Fr. Mangahases, then that would not be a problem. But, I do know that in many areas in our country, they will need help, maybe from people here in Manila who are able to give some of their time in order to help the depressed and the ignorant.

[Lazaro] Mrs. President, you have always been evaluated and critiqued by media. What is your own critique about media's performance in the last six years? You gave us democratic space. You did try to communicate, may be not as strongly as other people would have wished, perhaps because of the reaction to the Marcos approach to media. How would you basically rate our own role in terms of pushing people empowerment and strengthening the democratic forum?

[Aquino] Well, for those of you who are credible, then of course you yielded tremendous influence. Now, I am not sure if the people that I consider credible are also the same people who enjoy that kind of credibility nationwide. I think, this is something, of course, that we cannot expect from everybody. But I think, for the four of you who enjoy credibility, then it is for you to extend your influence even more. And, I am glad that in your case, Cheche, you know the Good News [a export information program by Lazaro], it is wonderful for people to know that so many thing are doable and that, in fact, they have a chance to improve their lives. [sentence as heard]

Basically, this is what we will do in the work that I am considering post-presidency. That whatever good programs and projects we have, we will hopefully replicate in other places. And, that will depend on the kind of resources that we will have access to. But initially, I was saying, perhaps we could identify with farmers' groups because we have had a lot of success insofar as agriculture is concerned. In fact, throughout the six years, it was in agriculture where we have been able to post a positive growth. And, since the majority of our people are in agriculture, then this is, I think, the best way for us to help them and to help the country as well. [passage omitted]

[Quintos de Jesus] Going back to other sectors, your presidency also started out [word indistinct] a very strong collaboration between private sector and government. You will now be part of the private sector. Will there be easier informal or formal communication ties? What role do you see for yourself in the private sector given that you are the former president of the Philippines?

[Aquino] Well, precisely because I am going to be a former president, I have already asked my legal advisers to study what it is that I can do and cannot do given the one year period where government officials are not supposed to or allowed to engage in activities which will be dealing directly with government. So, that is being studied.

Initially, my legal adviser was telling me that perhaps it would be better if you accept honorary chairperson's office rather than being the chairperson yourself. So, perhaps initially, at least during that one year, it will be may be just liaising with some of these foundations or nongovernment organizations and visiting and seeing exactly what it is that they are prepared to share with others.

Also, I am chairperson of the Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. Foundation, and I think there is no problem there. We have never asked for any assistance from government. This time I will have time to address the concerns of the Benigno Aquino Foundation. I would like for us to be able to give more scholarships to students throughout the country. Right now, we are just confined to the schools which Ninoy attended. But, I feel that maybe if I can devote more time to that, then hopefully we can attract more donors who will in turn finance the scholarships.

[Quintos de Jesus] Do you see an international profile for yourself given that you have, through the six years, stayed as woman president of the Philippines?

[Aquino] Well, I have received invitations and in fact there is an invitation for 1995. This is with regard to nongovernment organizations. Apparently, it is not only here and not only in Europe, but throughout the world, I guess, the nongovernment organizations are really attracting a lot of attention. And, we have seen, especially during the past four years, where projects are implemented in collaboration with nongovernment organizations, first of all, are implemented that much more quickly and also stay within budgets. So, these are so very important considerations and the fact that interest many from the private sector to also assist us in this collaboration work, I think that is really the wave of the future. And, I think it is very Filipino in that...[Aquino changes thought] I think this is what is lacking in us...[Aquino changes thought] Like what you were saying before, Teddy, where people tend to, I guess, distrust or be suspicious of others and businessmen do not look to kindly upon labor or labor distrust...[Aquino changes thought] Politicians do not really understand or many politicians because there are some who really identify with the nongovernment organizations. [sentence as heard] So, I think, what is necessary is for each of us to be able to see in each other the better Filipino trait, not always thinking negatively or seeing the bad in each of us; but rather trying really hard to look for the good in each of us. And, I am sure that there is a lot of good in each of us. So, maybe I am being too idealistic. [passage omitted]

[Benigno] Mrs. President, I would like to thank you for the time you have shared with us this evening. We do regret that even an hour-and-a-half interview is not enough to be able to bring together those things that you wanted to talk about, but it was certainly a very meaty, very substantial, and very illuminating interview. So, we would appreciate it if you could give a one minute message to our audience, Mrs. President.

[Aquino] Well, first of all let me thank you, Teddy, Melinda, Tony, and Cheche, and of course, let me thank our people, especially for the conduct of the last elections. And, I do thank you for the six years that you have given in support of my administration. I know that whatever we have been able to accomplish, would have not been possible without your help. *I hope that we will continue to support in the coming days our newly proclaimed leaders, especially our new president, who will be proclaimed on 30 June. Thank you and good evening.*

No Obstacle Seen to Proclamation of New President

HK0506125692 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 5 Jun 92

[By Tanny Rodriguez]

[Text] President Aquino today said she still sees no obstacle to the proclamation of the new president and vice president. The president made this statement in the wake of intelligence reports on the so-called No Sit plot to prevent presidential frontrunner Fidel V. Ramos from taking his oath of office. The president said she believes Congress will be able to proclaim the new president in time for his inauguration on 30 June and the start of his six-year administration.

Ramos Begins To Build Political 'Grand Alliance'

HK0906033192 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 9 Jun 92 p 1

[By Manny Mogato—italicized passage published in Tagalog]

[Text] Presidential front-runner Fidel Ramos yesterday [8 June] began a series of dialogues with politicians from rival parties and from his own party, the Lakas [Strength]-National Union of Christian Democrats (NUCD) coalition, in an effort to "expand his political base."

Ramos' political aides said a series of dialogues and consultations had been initiated by Ramos to "consolidate the Lakas-NUCD ranks as well as reach out to rival politicians to build a grand alliance."

Ramos met yesterday with two politicians from rival parties—reelected Tarlac Rep. Jose "Apeng" Yap of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Filipino Democrats] (LDP) and defeated Makati mayoral candidate Ramon Montano of the Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC).

A close aide said Ramos wanted the two politicians to serve as "a bridge between the administration and the other political parties in resolving problems as well as in determining their needs and requirements."

Both Yap and Montano refused to divulge to reporters what was discussed during their 15- to 20-minute one-on-one meetings at the Nikko Garden Hotel in Makati. Yap also did not say if the meeting took up the rumored alliance being formed by the Lakas-NUCD representatives and followers of Tarlac Rep. Jose "Peping" Cojuangco to capture the powerful post of House Speaker.

Ramos himself called the meetings as "an innovation" to reach out to all sectors, including those from rival political parties. He described the meetings as a way to grant access to both his followers and politicians from other parties to "gather, dialogue and solve problems."

He said Yap and Montano merely paid courtesy calls, saying the two were his good friends. "Some relations go beyond party affiliations," he said.

But he stressed the need for such meetings because of the pressing "need for greater unity, solidarity and teamwork."

"We are talking here as Filipinos," he said.

His spokesman, former Tourism Secretary Rafael Alunan III, described the meetings as "part and parcel of Secretary Ramos' effort to consolidate his political base, and that includes reaching out to political opponents."

He said uniting the country and establishing greater political stability that would encourage foreign investments and economic growth had become one of the priority programs of the Ramos administration.

"Because from July 1 onwards, you have to be off and running, and we can't afford to be fractious. We have to work together in harmony."

Ramos set up a temporary office yesterday in one of the large function rooms of the Nikko Garden Hotel, where he entertained supporters, mostly local officials who were complaining of massive poll fraud at the local level, and politicians from other parties seeking audience with him.

"*The space here is bigger, so we asked them to come here. They cannot fit into our office*," explained Apolinario Lozada, a Ramos political aide. Among those who came to talk to Ramos were Lakas-NUCD local candidates in Masbate, Isabela, Pangasinan, North Cotabato, Agusan del norte, Surigao del Sur and Davao City.

Apart from Yap and Montano, defeated Quezon City mayoral candidate Brigido Simon and former agriculture secretary Carlos "Sonny" Dominguez of the Partido Demokratiko Pilipino [Filipino Democratic Party] (PDP)-Laban [Strength of the Nation] also met separately with Ramos. Simon ran as an independent candidate after the LDP junked him in favor of former Rep. Ismael Mathay Jr. Simon was accompanied by three winning city councilors who ran with him and former agrarian reform secretary Philip Juico who ran but lost in the city's first congressional district under the Lakas-NUCD coalition.

Other visitors were mayoral candidate Susana Lim of Masbate, congressional candidate Sonia Rodriguez of Davao City, gubernatorial candidate Benjamin Yu of Surigao del Sur, gubernatorial bet Edwin Uy of Isabela and reelectionist mayor Mario Raymundo of Pasig, all of whom lost in their respective bids.

Winning bets who were at the meeting were reelected Rep. Edelmiro Amante of Agusan del Norte, Mayor Jose Miranda of Santiago, Isabela, and Mayor Mario Calayco of President Roxas town in Cotabato. Miranda, however, complained that his rivals led by the powerful Dee clan continued to block his proclamation.

Aides said Ramos was sincere in forging a grand alliance among almost all parties to get the country moving and catch up with the neighboring economic giants, like Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and South Korea.

Earlier, he had met with three rivals in the presidential race—Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. of the LDP, Sen. Jovito Salonga of the Liberal Party-PDP-Laban coalition, and Vice President Salvador Laurel of the Nacionalista Party (NP).

He had also met with winning vice-presidential candidate Joseph Estrada of the NPC and his erstwhile partner in the Edsa [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] revolution, Cagayan Rep. Juan Ponce Enrile.

He has expressed willingness to dialogue with the three other presidential rivals—businessman Eduard "Danding" Cojuangco of the NPC, former first lady Imelda Marcos of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) and Miriam Santiago of the People's Reform Party (PRP).

Last week, Ramos made up with the influential Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin during a breakfast meeting at the prelate's Mandaluyong Villa.

He has also been constantly meeting with all his supporters, followers and allies in an effort to cement a stronger coalition.

There are also efforts to forge alliances with the large LDP coalition and with the smaller parties to ensure success of their programs and policies, especially during the first 100 days.

Ramos: No Military Solution to Insurgency, Crime

HK0806020592 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Administration candidate Fidel Ramos has asserted he will not use a military solution to resolve the country's insurgency and growing criminality problem. Ramos said he will not create a police state if he wins the highest position in the country. He added that peace and order emanate from political, economic, and social stability and that insurgency and criminality problems cannot be resolved through a military solution. Ramos affirmed he will cooperate with the lower and upper chambers [of Congress] to immediately find solutions to these problems.

Abadia To Remain Armed Forces Chief Under Ramos

HK0806071592 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 6 Jun 92 p 1

[By Gay Dumat-ol]

[Text] Gen Lisandro C. Abadia has been assured he will retain his position as Armed Forces chief of staff if former defense secretary Fidel V. Ramos is proclaimed the country's next president, a ranking AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] official said yesterday.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said Ramos had made the promise to Abadia in a recent meeting.

"Ramos appeared sincere when he talked with the chief of staff," the official said.

He said Ramos has apparently decided to keep Abadia because the AFP chief of staff seemed to have "established credibility in the AFP" and had reached out to rebel officers in an attempt to bring them back to the fold of law.

"Although Ramos and the chief of staff are not exactly the best of friends, Ramos knows it would be unwise to install another chief of staff," the source said.

Abadia has two years left in the military service before he reaches retirement age.

But sources at the Ramos camp had earlier hinted that Ramos might replace Abadia with Army chief Maj. Gen. Arturo Enrile.

Last week, Abadia said he would recommend a new round of peace talks with rebel soldiers who have staged at least seven attempts to overthrow the Aquino government.

The chief of staff initiated peace talks with rebel soldiers led by cashiered Col. Gregorio Honasan last year but the negotiation was terminated when it became clear that Honasan, ex-Commodore Domingo Calajate and other top leaders of the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan (RAM) were not willing to give up.

Election Commission Proclaims Winning Senators

HK0906104192 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] The Commission on Elections has proclaimed the 24 winning senators in the 11 May elections. The proclamation ceremony was held this afternoon at the Army and Navy Club on Roxas Boulevard. Here is Ron Bayani with the details:

[Begin recording] [Bayani] The winning senatorial candidates, who will sit for six years at the Senate, are Vicente Sotto III, Ramon Revilla, Edgardo Angara, Ernesto Herrera, Ernesto Maceda, Alberto Romulo, Orlando Mercado, Neptali Gonzales, Heherson Alvarez, Leticia Shahani, Blas Ople, and Freddie Webb.

Meanwhile, the following will only sit for three years: Gloria Macapagal, Teofisto Guingona, Santanina Rasul, Jose Lina Jr., Anna Dominique Coseteng, Arturo Tolentino, Raul Roco, Rodolfo Biazon, Wigberto Tanada, Francisco Tatad, John Osmena, and Agapito Aquino.

Among the winning candidates, 14 have been reelected. The majority of the winners belong to the Struggle of Filipino Democrats, which has 16 elected senators. [end recording]

Aquino Admits Marcos Gold Offered to Brother

HK0906052892 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] President Aquino has admitted that Enrique Zobel offered her brother Pedro Cojuangco gold and money from the Marcoses in exchange for their return to the country in 1988. The chief executive, however, told her brother to shun the issue so that the Cojuangcos could not be accused of wanting a share of the Marcos wealth. The president said her brother mentioned Zobel's offer to her only in passing, so she did not pay much attention to it. She added she told her brother to leave the matter to the Philippine Commission on Good Government.

Rebel Soldiers Hold Documents on Marcos Gold

HK0806043892 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 7 Jun 92 pp 1, 11

[By Gay Dumat-ol—italicized passage published in Tagalog]

[Text] A member of the shadowy Young Officers Union [YOU] has claimed that ultra-rightist rebels have in their possession a "sackful" of documents proving that the late President Ferdinand Marcos had a vast hoard, not only of gold, but also of platinum.

Malacanang, however, dismissed business tycoon Enrique Zobel's story as "worthless," saying a documentary film of the German magazine STERN had more details about Marcos' gold hoard.

"*There's no value in the story of Enrique Zobel,*" Press Secretary Horacio Paredes said.

In a recent interview, the YOU officer, who asked not to be identified, said the documents were accidentally recovered by rebel soldiers at the height of the August 1987, coup attempt from a secret compartment inside the PTV-4 [People's Television] station in Quezon City.

The officer said one of the mutineers, noticing that the wall he had been leaning on was hollow, poked at it with the butt of his Armalite rifle. A few other mutineers helped.

When the wall gave in, he added, the rebel soldiers saw a secret compartment with a sack filled with what appeared to be vital documents, some of them bearing Marcos' signature.

The officer said the soldiers fled with the sack of documents and turned it over to cashiered Lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan, leader of the Rebolus-Yonaryong Alyansang Makabayan (RAM).

At first we had difficulty decoding the documents," the officer said.

"Eventually, we were able to connect one document to another, and then to another...until we realized that what we had was vital," he said.

The documents allegedly contained serial numbers of gold bars and indicated the persons, mostly military generals loyal to Marcos, who were supposed to have kept the treasure for him.

"A few documents even indicated that Marcos had stocked platinum, which is more costly than gold," the officer added.

The rebels' executive committee, composed of RAM and YOU officers, is keeping the documents.

Zobel claimed last Thursday that Marcos had planned in 1988 to turn over to a foundation his gold holdings worth $35 billion, in exchange for being allowed to return to the Philippines.

A portion of the gold deposits would have been used to pay the $26-billion foreign debt the country incurred largely during the Marcos regime.

But Zobel said no response from the Aquino administration was heard after he had disclosed the matter to Pedro Cojuangco, Ms. Aquino's elder brother.

The President on Friday [5 June] denied that she had ignored an opportunity for the government to recover a substantial portion of the Marcos gold.

Paredes, saying that Zobel failed to give information on the banks keeping Marcos' gold deposits, noted that STERN's documentary video shown on German television two months ago found evidence on the quantity of gold stored at a Swiss airport warehouse.

He played the German-language video before newsmen yesterday [6 Jun].

The video showed footage of the Kloten Airport warehouse where part of Marcos' gold bullion was stored and of documents indicating the volume of his hoard.

One document showed that Marcos had 52,570 gold bars deposited in a European bank.

Paredes said a gold bar weighs 15 kilos.

In an interview, Australian Reiner Jacobi, a former intelligence agent of the Presidential Commission on Good Government [PCGG], told the STERN that Marcos' gold holdings amounted to $14 billion.

Jacobi was arrested in July 1991, in Munich, Germany, for allegedly trying to tap into Swiss bank computers in search of the Marcos assets.

Switzerland charged Jacobi with espionage, but German authorities released him a week later on the ground that his job was "political" and protected him from extradition.

The PCGG had earlier claimed that the Marcos gold in Switzerland identified by Jacobi weighed at least 325 tons and was valued at $5 billion.

Former PCGG Chairman David Castro said the gold was managed by Union Bank of Switzerland and was deposited, not in the names of Marcos' children but in those of his trustees.

The Aquino administration has been looking for the Marcos gold not only in Europe but also in the country.

In 1988, it went into a futile gold-digging spree at Fort Santigao in Intramuros and several other sites across the country.

According to Zobel, he helped finalize the trust agreement in 1989 in Honolulu, but Marcos died before he could sign it.

Thailand

UNTAC Heads Meet Officials for Talks on Cambodia

Clashes With Khmer Rouge Denied

BK0906043292 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] UN peacekeeping forces in Cambodia have not been involved in fighting as some reports indicated. General Charan Kunlawanit, the secretary general of the National Security Council [NSC], told reporters that Mr. Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, UNTAC, called on him at the Government House yesterday. Mr. Akashi stated that no members of the UN peacekeeping force have been involved in clashes with the Khmer Rouge [KR] as reported. Certain personnel hospitalized in Chanthaburi Province were injured under other circumstances. Mr. Akashi has asked Thailand to help persuade the KR to render cooperation to UNTAC in Cambodia. Gen. Charan said that though Thailand and Cambodia had lifted their [word indistinct] in a certain level and that the country had no power to guide the KR in its operations or behavior.

Cite 'Lack of Cooperation' by Khmer Rouge

BK0806123092 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), and General John Sanderson, UNTAC military commander, called on Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Witthaya Wetchachiwa at the Foreign Ministry at 1400 today. Sakthip Krairoek, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, told newsmen after the meeting that Yasushi Akashi thanked Thailand for its role in signing the Cambodian peace accord in Paris. He also thanked Thailand for providing facilities to the UNTAC forces stopping over on their way to Cambodia and for the repatriation of Cambodian refugees from Thailand. He also praised the Thai engineering soldiers who are on a mine-clearing mission in Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge [KR] issue was also discussed during the meeting. The main obstacle to the second phase of the Cambodian peace operation is that the KR have not extended cooperation or have refused to give details on their military locations. The KR have not stopped firing, nor have they stopped military movements. During the meeting, he asked Thailand to help persuade the KR to cooperate in the peace process. The Foreign Ministry permanent secretary accepted the request, saying that he will try to discover the reasons behind the KR's lack of cooperation.

UNTAC Desperate for Help

BK0906023992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Jun 92 p 7

[Text] Thailand, a principle backer of the Khmer Rouge, says it can only pass on a United Nations' plea for the faction to cooperate with the peace plan in Cambodia.

Thailand stopped short of committing itself to persuading the Khmer Rouge to comply with the UN request, and also asked the UN to come to grips with why the Khmer Rouge is unyielding.

Yasushi Akashi, chief of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), and UNTAC military commander Lt-Gen John Sanderson, met senior Thai Government officials yesterday in a last-ditch attempt to keep the $2 billion peace process on track.

With Phase Two of the plan to regroup, demobilise and disarm Khmer forces scheduled to begin on June 13, the Khmer Rouge still denies access and information needed to assist deployment of UN troops in the southwestern zone controlled by the faction.

Mr Akashi and Lt-Gen Sanderson met Gen Charan Kunlawanit, secretary general of the National Security Council for more than an hour yesterday and later talked with Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Witthaya Wetchachiwa.

"We are in a quandary and puzzled at the Democratic Kampuchea Party's attitude. We are at a loss over what we can do but we will continue to explore all possibilities," Mr Akashi told reporters after the session with Mr Witthaya.

The UN secretary-general will report the status of peace operations in Cambodia to the UN Security Council whose members are holding consulatations on how to act on the problem, according to Mr Akashi.

Despite the non-committal responses he received in the two separate meetings, the UNTAC chief said he is satisfied with Thailand's cooperation.

Gen Charan told the UNTAC chief that Thailand could only "talk to" and not "negotiate with or exercise influence over" the Khmer Rouge to solicit the cooperation the UN needs.

While Gen Charan believes the Khmer Rouge's refusal to cooperate with the UNTAC request could result from missing links in communications, Mr Akashi said he thinks it is a fundamental question of attitude and sincerity over complying with the peace agreements signed in Paris last October.

Mr Akashi said he has met Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan and the solution to the problem is simply for the party to accept the 12 point proposal adopted at the Supreme National Council of Cambodia's session on May 26.

Khieu Samphan has not yet responded positively to the proposal, "much to my regret," Mr Akashi said.

Asked whether he will meet Pol Pot, who is widely believed to wield ultimate power, Mr Akashi said: "I don't know who the decision-maker is for the Khmer Rouge but I told Khieu Samphan that I will be prepared to go anywhere and meet any of his colleages if I can help in persuading them."

Mr Akashi also lodged "a fervant plea" for the Khmer Rouge to reconsider its position and accept the 12-point proposal.

He said the Khmer Rouge's foot-dragging is "unfair" on the other Khmer factions which are preparing to join Phase Two.

Mr Akashi expressed hope that the difficulties will be settled to allow the peace plan to proceed, and not adversely affect the ministerial conference of donor countries on the reconstruction of Cambodia later his month in Tokyo.

The Khmer Rouge has insisted that the UN as a priority verifies the total withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.

The UNTAC chief said the Khmer Rouge concerns were tackled by setting up ten checkpoints along the Cambodia-Vietnam border, while mobile military units were prepared to be sent over Cambodia to verify the alleged Vietnamese presence.

But until now the Khmer Rouge has not come up with specific information on the Vietnamese presence. The UNTAC is prepared to make immediate investigations.

Gen Charan suggested that the UNTAC, the Supreme National Council of Cambodia and the Democratic Kampuchea Party sit together to work out the definition of "Vietnamese presence" in Cambodia and to verify it.

With troops from 11 countries now prepared to start Phase Two, the Khmer Rouge "has to remove obstacles to the freedom of movement, mark minefields and establish commander-to-commander relationships which they have not done so far," Mr Akashi said.

Although the "unwillingness to cooperate" by the DK Party may prompt some modification of the plan, the UN will still adhere to the timetable of June 13 to begin implementing Phase Two, Lt-Gen Sanderson said.

Democrats Reaffirm Attempt To Form Government

BK0806112592 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 3 in Thai 1023 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] After his consultative meeting with the four oppostion parties' leaders on the formation of a government, Major General Sanan Khachonprasat, secretary general of the Democrat Party, returned to his party's office, where he held a meeting with the Democrat Party's leading members for nearly two hours.

Maj. Gen. Sanan Khachonprasat then held an interview with newsmen, saying that the Democrat Party still believes it can form a government. The party is now trying to win a majority of votes.

[Begin recording, in progress] [unidentified correspondent] ...on the 10th of this month?

[Sanan] Probably on the 10th.

[Unidentified correspondent] Are there any conditions? What about those whose assets were confiscated?

[Sanan] We are not yet at a point where we can discuss that. Our principle is that we must form a government.

[Unidentified correspondent] What will you do if your party cannot form a government after the 10th?

[Sanan] We must explain our attempt to the people. If we fail, we will have to hold consultations among our four opposition parties.

[Unidentified correspondent] If the Democrat Party fails, will the Phalang Tham Party take over this job, or will we simply give up and allow the other side to form the government?

[Sanan] I have not yet discussed this matter with the Phalang Tham Party. If the Democrat Party, with this much support, cannot do the job, we are probably on a dead end road. We will fall into the sea if we continue walking. [laughter]

[Unidentified correspondent] Do you mean the house will be dissolved?

[Sanan] Whoever forms the government will decide. We will have to do our work in the parliament. [end recording]

Maj. Gen. Sanan Khachonprasat disclosed that the Democrat Party today sent its representatives to hold consultations with the Samakkhi Tham Party on its bid to form a government.

Asked about a report that the house speaker went to attend a meeting with the Samakkhi Tham Party in Chiang Rai Province and met with a military officer, Maj. Gen. Sanan Khachonprasat said that the house speaker did that in his capacity as a member of the Samakkhi Tham Party, noting that the house speaker is still working from a neutral point of view. He said he believed that the military would no longer interfere in politics.

Speaker Hints at Nomination of Premier 10-11 Jun

BK0906073992 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] This morning house president Athit Urairat received an open letter from a group of community doctors, nurses, and pharmacists from Nakhon Sawan and Ayutthaya Provinces which asked that he thoroughly reconsider the person to be nominated as prime minister. The group disagrees with the five government parties being permitted to form a government. Athit said he could not comply with the wish of any particular group, insisting that he would comply with the democratic norms and framework.

Speaking to reporters afterward, Athit rejected the report that he was in Chiang Rai Province to confer with Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rotchananin, pointing out that his rest trip was not preplanned and that he did not meet Kaset. He assured that even though he is a Samakkhi Tham Party member, as house speaker he remains impartial to any group.

Asked about presenting to the king the name of the person nominated as prime minister, Athit said he may do that on 10 or 11 June. He will thoroughly consider the nomination once more, and as house speaker he is willing to listen to the people's views. He said that at present there is no process to gauge public opinion so he cannot measure its strength. In any event, he has given all sides the opportunity to form a government, and how successful they are is up to them.

Protest Expected for 10 Jun Parliament Session

Riot Police To Use Batons, Shields

BK0906035592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] Riot-control police armed with batons and shields will be used to quell any unrest which may result from the expected confrontation between pro-democracy and pro-military groups in front of Parliament House tomorrow, Police Department Chief Sawat Amonwiwat said yesterday.

Pol Gen Sawat said that he was concerned that both sides may mobilise mobs to support their causes when Parliament reconvenes to deliberate the third and final reading of the constitutional amendments.

"The police have been instructed not to use firearms when dealing with the protesters. And only if really necessary will they be permitted to use their batons and shields," Pol Gen Sawat said.

The national police chief said he has not received a request from Parliament for extra police forces to maintain peace and order tomorrow but he would send special reinforcements just in case.

Meanwhile, Deputy Police Director-General Manat Krutchayan has been assigned to inspect the police forces' anti-riot gear and to urgently repair equipment damaged in the May 17-20 bloodshed so that it is ready for use tomorrow.

He urged all parties concerned to use reason and to avoid the use of violence.

Police Warn of Infiltrators

BK0906034792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Jun 92 p A2

[Text] Police Director General Pol Gen Sawat Amonwiwat yesterday warned groups planning to hold political rallies over the formation of a new government to beware of infiltrators who could abuse the situation to spark violence.

Sawat said while the old government coalition members and the opposition bloc were struggling to form a new government, there could be groups which would support and oppose the political stands of the two camps.

"Those who plan to stage political rallies should beware of infiltrators who could abuse the situation to cause violence," he said.

Sawat said he will call a meeting of police commanders today to discuss the current political situation and measures to prevent possible violence stemming from activities of various groups. .

However, Sawat said he did not expect any huge rally like the pro-democracy protests last month.

Police will avoid using force in their peacekeeping missions if there are any political rallies. Weapons will definitely not be used to control crowds, he said.

In a related development yesterday, acting Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan reaffirmed that a dissolution of Parliament was the only way out of the current political impasse.

Michai on Amnesty, Protest Outside Parliament

BK0906075192 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Caretaker Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan spoke with newsmen this morning at Government House. Asked about the five coalition parties forming a new government, Michai said they are following the normal process. Regarding whether government formation will proceed smoothly, Michai said not every step can be expected to go smoothly.

Regarding tommorow's combined meeting of the parliament to vote on the Constitution amendments in the third reading, Michai said there should be no problem because it merely involves a vote on whether or not to approve the amendments. The meeting will take some time because a vote will have to be called separately on each of the four amendments. He expressed the belief that the senators will vote to approve the amendments.

Asked about the royal amnesty decree, Michai said he learned that today certain political parties would submit a request for the Constitutional tribunal to reconsider the decree, but it was unlikely that it could be placed on the agenda for the 10 June parliament meeting.

Regarding calls for dissolution of parliament, Michai said that in a democratic system people can express their ideas, adding that he is open to ideas. He asked that people who are expected to gather tomorrow at parliament building refrain from violence, pointing out that the parliament meeting on that day will involve no debates and will only vote.

Democrats Urged To Form Interim Regime

BK0606013792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Jun 92 p A6

[Editorial: "Chuan Should Not Protect Pro-Suchinda Politicians"]

[Text] Opposition leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut finally realized that his quest for the premiership was futile. After nearly two weeks he and his New Aspiration Party failed to persuade any of the five parties in the pro-Suchinda coalition to switch sides. Chawalit's decision to withdraw from the race on Thursday gave Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai a chance to try his hand in lobbying the five parties.

Chuan is indeed a less controversial contender than either Chawalit or Chat Thai Party leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong, the five party coalition's nominee for the premiership. He also seems more acceptable than Chawalit in the eyes of key military leaders who still strongly distrust the former army chief.

Deposed premier Gen Chatchai Chunhawan, the ex-leader of Chat Thai, appears in favour of his party joining the Chuan-led opposition bloc to form a new government. The opposition bloc of four parties has 163 MPs in the 360-member House. Chat Thai's 74 MPs bring the strength of a Chuan coalition up to 237 MPs, 56 votes more than a simple majority—a far greater margin of safety than that of the original pro-Suchinda coalition with 195 MPs.

Even so, the Chuan bandwagon may end up going nowhere. The road ahead is full of obstacles.

For starters, Chat Thai is one of the five pro-Suchinda parties which Chuan and his colleages in the Opposition denounced as unprincipled and ruthlessly selfish. Chat Thai's influential secretary-general, Banhan Sinlapa-acha, strongly objected to disqualifying Gen Suchinda Khraprayun from the premiership with a constitutional amendment.

Co-opting Chat Thai into a Chuan coalition would erode the legitimacy of the new government. Worse still, it tends to suggest that Chuan and his allies in the Opposition can conveniently put moral responsibility and political integrity on the back burner whenever doing so serves their political interests.

Furthermore, Chuan and Maj Gen Chamlong Simuang, ex-leader of Phalang Tham, have publicly vowed not to work with parties led by "unusually wealthy" politicians. Four of Chat Thai senior members—Chatchai, former leader Gen Praman Adireksan, and deputy leaders Sanoh Thianthong and Watthana Atsawahem—were implicated in a military-sponsored investigation into corruption during the Chatchai administration.

Chatchai has washed his hands of national politics, though he has agreed to return as a senior advisor to the party. Praman, on the other hand, was re-elected in the March 22 election in Saraburi but declined to accept any post in the Suchinda Cabinet (in return his son, Pongphon, in his first Cabinet appointment, was given the prestigious foreign ministers' post).

Chatchai and Praman, both in their 70s, will pose little problem. but talking Sanoh and Watthana to give up their claims to Cabinet posts will not be easy. Sanoh is a protege of Praman; he sees himself as a potential leader of Chat Thai. Foregoing power at this crucial moment would undercut his position.

As for Watthana, he left the post of secretary-general of the Ratsadon Party and successfully helped Chat Thai Party leader Sombun win his first election in Samut Prakan. Watthana's ambition is to head the Labour Ministry when it is formed because Samut Prakan houses a large number of industries. Sombun himself will surely try to defend Watthana, because his own political career is also at stake here.

Chuan and his fellow Democrats may have few qualms about taking Chat Thai into the fold. They were together in the Chatchai administration and Democrats didn't abandon the scandal-riddled government until its last two months, when it was obviously sinking.

However, getting in bed with Chamlong's centrist party is a different story. Phalang Tham is unlikely to forgive Chat Thai as quickly and easily as the Democrats can. Phalang Tham's 41 MPs are mostly in favour of dissolving the House and holding a new election.

Chawalit's New Aspiration could also pose a serious problem if its share of Cabinet posts is unsatisfactory. Without the New Aspiration's 72 MPs the new government would lose its House majority. To cope with this problem, Chuan might have to bring in Samakkhi Tham, the largest pro-Suchindaa party with 79 MPs, as a counterweight to Chat Thai and NAP. The result would be a six-party coalition of 316 MPs.

If such a grand coalition materializes, the next bone of contention would be the interior minister's post. The party controlling the Interior Ministry would have a clear political edge in the next election. None of the top five parties can afford to let this key portfolio fall into unfriendly hands. A neutral outsider might have to be invited to serve as minister to settle this question.

A marriage of convenience between the four opposition parties and one or two of the pro-Suchinda parties may be preferable to a new government of the pro-Suchinda coalition led by Chat Thai's Sombun as far as the pro-democracy forces are concerned. But it would allow the co-opted leaders from the Suchinda coalition to not only escape scot-free, but return to power as if they had no blood debt to pay for the massacre on Ratchadamnoen Avenue during May 17-20.

Neither Chun nor his allies in the Opposition have any right to shield the pro-Suchinda parties by co-opting them. If Chuan is the only one who can end the current political deadlock, his only acceptable excuse to woo Chat Thai and Samakkhi Tham would be to form an interim government to take charge of the investigation into the May bloodbath and to dissolve the House and hold a fresh election at the first opportunity.

Anything other than that would be tantamount to a betrayal of the spirit of those tens of thousands of people who braved soldiers' bullets to demand Suchinda's resignation, and his fellow Democrats must not forget that they had little or no part at [all] in that bloody struggle. Chuan owes it to those killed and wounded in the bloodbath to return government power to the people as soon as possible.

Opposition Fears Losing Seats in New Election

BK0906054192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Jun 92 p A3

[Article by Sorayut Suthatsanachinda: "Opposition Wary of Another Poll"]

[Text] Despite pro-democracy groups' earnest calls for a dissolution of the House of Representatives, three major opposition parties have made it clear that they stand against the proposal.

At first glance, the Opposition would seem to stand to gain if the House is dissolved, and therefore, the bloc might have surprised political observers with its stand against the House dissolution which was proposed by acting Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan.

The opposition bloc of Phalang Tham, New Aspiration, Democrat and Solidarity parties have proven to the public that they can stand up to the military's strongarming.

Also, they joined forces with the pro-democracy groups to overthrow former army chief and supreme commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun from the helm of the government which he enjoyed without having to contest in any election.

These credits should, many believe, help the Opposition emerge as the big winner after sweeping most House seats if a snap election is held following a House dissolution.

Nevertheless, opposition sources told THE NATION that many factors lead the bloc to believe that there are no guarantees that they would beat the pro-military coalition parties if another general election was held.

The sources said if the House was dissolved the five coalition parties—Samakkhi Tham, Chat Thai, Social Action, Ratsadon and Prachakon Thai—would automatically become an interim government entrusted to hold the election.

The opposition members voiced concern that the interim government might abuse government facilities to benefit the five parties in the election, and the results might see the Opposition receive even less than its current 163 MPs.

Whether or not it has considered this possibility, the coalition has dismissed as impossible the pro-democracy groups' proposal to allow the Opposition to form a minority government to dissolve the House and organize the election.

The coalition has also refused to cooperate in setting up a national government of all political parties to restore the country and later dissolve the House to return the mandate to the people.

"Who will control the government mechanism in charge of the election?" one of the opposition sources asked.

The sources said another factor, which worried the Opposition, was that the coalition had been "established to be united," which meant that they would join forces in competing against opposition parties which were loosely united.

"Consider that the five parties have been firmly established as one unit while the four opposition parties are forced by circumstances to form a bloc," another source said. "You can guess the results when the two blocs have to compete in a general election."

He said the most likely scenario would see the coalition avoiding any confrontations among its members in the poll while the opposition parties would have to launch all-out efforts to score as many victories as possible.

For example, the New Aspiration would have to clash head-on with the Democrats to gain dominance in southern provinces while the latter would have to compete with Phalang Tham for Bangkok's House seats, the source said.

The opposition sources said they expect that no significant changes would occur in the areas now under the control of coalition parties, such as the northeastern, central, and northern regions.

The New Aspiration would be thwarted by the five coalition parties from its effort to score victories in the Northeast, which is now dominated by Samakkhi Tham MPs, the sources cited as another example.

They also noted that the New Aspiration, which is the third largest party with 72 MPs, might not receive as much financial support as it enjoyed in the last election as its financiers might have become disappointed with the party's failure to form a government.

They say they have learnt that in addition to New Aspiration leader Gen Chawalit facing tough military opposition to becoming a prime minister, some of his MPs could also be expected to defect to support the five-party coalition.

Prospective financiers might turn to the coalition parties instead, the sources noted.

They also voiced concern that money would again do the talking in the rural areas, and this would enable the coalition MPs to buy their way back into the House.

Michai might have had in mind the concerns of the Opposition when he seemed to lose his patience with the political impasse and said last week that politicians were too selfish and paid little concern to the country's interests.

Michai, who has repeatedly said that he was empowered to dissolve the House, said he would not invoke the power without consent from the political parties.

The acting prime minister may not have to invoke the power at all, given the fact that the coalition insists on forming a new government with Chat Thai leader Sombun Rahong as prime minister, and the Opposition's remaining objections to the House dissolution.

Political observers are suggesting that the opposition parties work closer to compete with the pro-military coalition in the event that an election is held.

They say the opposition parties should support each other in the House races and avoid confrontations in each party's areas of assured victory.

But many believe that this suggestion is unlikely to be acted upon.

Pro-Military, Rightists Warn Democracy Groups

BK0806032992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] Several pro-military groups have been united under a new umbrella group which has threatened tit-for-tat retaliation against pro-democracy groups if they use violence in their future campaigns.

The warning came from the leader of the group, Captain Amon Suwanbuppha, who said on Saturday that Aphirak Chakkri (protecting the Dynasty) comprised several groups which were used by the military to crush pro-democracy student activists on Oct 6, 1976.

The pro-military groups included Kluaymai (Orchid) Thai, Khangkhao (Bats) Thai, Wihok Saifa (Thunderbird) and ultra-right Krathing Daeng (Red Gaur), the retired navy captain said.

The Red Gaur spearheaded the Oct 6 crackdown in which scores of student activists were massacred inside Thammasat University.

Amon consented to talking to THE NATION on the phone a few days after Krathing Daeng founder, Maj Gen Sutsai Thephasadin, announced his group was attemping to unify other groups to counter the pro-democracy movement.

Amon said members of the promilitary groups came from various walks of life, including soldiers, teachers, mechanics, key state enterprise workers, who were mostly 35 or 36 years-old.

"They are people with principles who cannot be lured by any group," Amon said.

Amon, a Naval Academy graduate who was senior to current Navy Commander in Chief Adm Wichet Karunyawanit, resigned from the military service in 1987 and has been working as lecturer on defence for the National Peacekeeping Forces.

Despite his connections with the military Amon said his new group "is not pro-military".

To prove that his group had nothing to do with the military, Amon said the military "would have not lost had our groups supported it", apparently referring to Gen Suchinda Khraprayun's resignation as prime minister following the May 17-20 bloodshed.

He admitted that his groups had recently met in the compound of the Army Training Command Department because "we have no financial support so we have to seek support from various government agencies."

While trying to portray his group as not being pro-military, Amon defended the shooting of anti-Suchinda protesters

He alleged the three police stations near the rally site on Ratchadamnoen Avenue were set ablaze by mobs organized by the Opposition.

But pro-democracy groups and a few senior police offers have said they suspect these acts of arson were carried out by a group of police and soldiers to provide the military with a pretext to use force to crush the demonstrators.

Amon said the soldiers were only acting in self-defence because they "feared" the demonstrators.

"The demonstrators assaulted the military first. They tried to demolish the barbed-wire barricades and threw stones at the soldiers," Amon said.

He claimed that soldiers were overwhelmed by the anti-army protesters who used molotov cocktails which he said were dangerous enough to "destroy Army tanks".

Democracy Group 'Gravely Concerned'

BK0806041392 Bangkok TNA in English 0344 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Bangkok, June 8 (OANA-TNA)—The Confederation for Democracy, an organizer of last month's mass demonstrations against Gen. Suchinda Khraprayun, has expressed grave concern about several pro-military groups which are being reorganized to counter democracy movement.

The confederation's member Weng Chochitrakon said the militant groups such as Krathing Daeng, has been trying to discredit pro-democracy movement. He said they have been launching misinformation campaigns alleging that those who participating [as received] in last month's demonstrations are communists or members of a new religious sect trying to destroy Buddhism.

The ousted Prime Minister Suchinda last month accused New Aspiration Party Leader Chawalit Yongchaiyut of trying to replace the constitutional monarchy with a communist-like political system.

At the height of the demonstrations, he also alledged that former Bangkok Governor and Palang Tham Party Leader Chamlong Simuang was attempting to create a new state religion.

Weng stressed that anti-Suchinda protests had nothing to do with religion or communism. They were pro-democracy force fighting with military dictators, he said.

Student Body Hands Out Manual on Possible Coup

BK0806035192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] The Students' Federation of Thailand [SFT] yesterday began warning the public against a possible coup d'etat and suggested peaceful ways in which they could resist it.

Speaking from a pickup truck opposite the Mah Boon Khrong shopping centre, SFT secratary-general Prinya Thewanarumitkun told passers-by that another coup is possible because the armed forces have taken an aggressive stance.

Although Gen Suchinda Khraprayun has resigned as Prime Minister, ACM Kaset Rotchananin and Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi remain powerful in the armed forces and are trying to keep power to return Gen Suchinda to the premiership, Mr Prinya alleged.

The public is the major factor in determining whether a coup can succeed, he said. Although coup makers will seize official bases, television stations, tap-water or power plants, they will fail eventurally if the coup is opposed nationwide.

The SFT members distributed leaflets entitled "Manual for Peacefully Resisting a Coup" to passers-by around Pathum Wan intersection yesterday evening.

The leaflets stressed peaceful measures for the public to undertake during a coup such as:

- — All career groups should strike nationwide to paralyse the country politically, socially and economically;
- —People should crowd the streets or leave them deserted;
- —Water and electricity should be cut to coup-makers' operation bases;
- —All news release and orders, especially curfews, issued by the coup-makers should be rejected;
- —Streets should be blocked with cars or things which cannot be moved;
- —People should prove to the military and police that their intention during anti-coup protests is peaceful, in a bid to win them over;
- —Money should be withdrawn from banks; and
- —Taxes and charges for phone calls, tap water and electricity should not be paid.

Mr Prinya said the SFT will continue to distribute the leaflets nationwide with business sponsorship.

As a way out of the deadlock, the SFT favours a dissolution of Parliament and another election, he said.

The SFT suggests the establishment of an interim government to hold a fair election. In this case, the SFT supports Democrat leader Chuan Likphai as premier because he can be relied on to ensure a fair contest.

The SFT opposes Chat Thai leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong, now backed by the coalition parties, as premier because the parties are responsible for the dead and missing during May 17 to 20.

Mr Prinya questioned whether the five parties could be considered innocent of involvement when none of their politicians tried to stop the Suchinda government from using troops to crack down on protesters.

Official Comments on Drug Patent Bill

BK0806043792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] The amended drug patent bill will be enforced near the end of the year but Thailand has yet to devise further amendments to conform with changing circumstances, including the pending outcome of world trade talks, according to a senior official.

Permanent Secretary for Commerce Phatchara Itsarasena told a legal seminar on the Pharmaceutical Patent Bill on Saturday that "two or three crucial points" remain which Thailand has to take into account and which require legislative changes.

"Despite the protection extended by the Bill, this will not be the last piece of legislation on the issue. More amendments will be forthcoming," he said.

He said the Bill does not protect substances extracted from plants and animals or cover pathology techniques.

Also to be considered is the extent to which these sectors should be legally protected. Another question in the Bill relates to the mandate of the Pharmaceutical Patent Committee which will oversee the impact of the legislation on drug prices.

The committee's ability to carry out its work remains in doubt because its function is close to that of the Central Commission on Prices and Prevention of Monopoly which is chaired by the Commerce Minister.

"There are many factors emerging or about to emerge that will call for amendments to update the Bill, especially the outcome of world trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade," Mr Phatchara said.

The protection of intellectual property is a matter of trading of interests, he added.

For what the US calls inadequate protection of intellectual property and patents, Thailand was put on the priority watchlist, making it liable for retaliatory measures imposed by Washington.

The drug patent bill is one attempt to meet US demands.

House Commission Starts Riot Investigation

BK0906075392 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] The extraordinary commission appointed by the House of Representatives to investigate the 17-20 May political crisis started its work by inviting five persons involved in the incident to testify at the National Assembly this morning.

Det Bunlong, chairman of the commission, told reporters that the commission's spokesman will be assigned to brief the mass media on the results of the interrogation.

Asked if reporters could be allowed to observe the interrogation process, the commission chairman replied that journalists' associations will have to submit to the commission a written request that will probably be approved.

Det Bunlong reaffirmed that the interrogation will be conducted expeditiously because the commission is given only 45 days to complete the mission. The commission will also review videos of the incident now on sale to the public to aid its deliberation.

Asked if the work of the commission would end if the amnesty decree becomes effective, Det Bunlong said the commission will probably continue with its work because the investigation is designed to determine the facts of the event, not to take criminal cases against anyone. Besides, the commission will also work out measures to prevent such a mishap.

Asked about the commission's coordination with the government's fact-finding committee, Det Bunlong said permission will be sought from the committee to allow the commission's representatives to observe its investigation so the commission will be able to use the findings of the committee.

Chamlong: Protesters Did Not Die in Vain

BK0906025192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Jun 92 p 6

[Text] Anti-Suchinda demonstrators killed during the May 17-20 protests did not die in vain, according to Maj-Gen Chamlong Simuang.

The former Phalang Tham Party [PDP] leader, who has kept a low profile since being freed on May 21 because of fears he is a target for assassination, said the people gained more than they realise from the demonstrations.

Maj-Gen Chamlong, although saddened by the loss of life, said the pro-democracy demonstrations were a major event in Thai political history.

"This is a monumental period where the democratic consciousness of the people has been awaken more than ever before," he said.

Also, while emphasising that he is not downplaying the importance of previous pro-democracy uprisings such as the October 1973 incident, he said the recent protests saw greater participation from the middle class.

"Never before have we had such wide participation. What we have achieved is considerable although we may not be able to see it."

He said the passage of proposed amendments to the Constitution were also the results of the demonstrations.

Never before have four motions passed two simultaneous readings in one day.

If the law did not state that 15 days had to pass before the third and final reading, the proposed amendments would have passed all three readings on the one days, he said.

"We achieved more than we expected. We got Gen Suchinda (Khraprayun) to resign and the proposed constitutional amendments passed in two readings. If the Government had not used force then the result would have been good."

The proposed amendments would not have been passed without the street demonstrations and the pressure it had on the coalition parties, he said.

Maj-Gen Chamlong has been criticised for trying to lead the demonstrators on the night of May 17 from Sanam Luang to Government House to demand the resignation of Gen Suchinda, but he still believes the move was not a miscalculation.

He also denies any wrongdoing, although he is prepared to be brought to court if others feel he should be held responsible and punished for what happened.

The former PDP leader said the demonstrators moved their locations twice: once from Parliament to Sanam Luang and then from Sanam Luang to the Democracy Monument on Ratchadamnoen Avenue before a one-week truce was called.

In both cases, tens of thousands of people were involved in the move but there were no incidents.

He said the decision to move from Sanam Luang to Government House on May 17 was a collective decision by the Confederation of Democracy.

Maj-Gen Chamlong and other demonstration leaders never expected the "cruel-hearted" crackdown on unarmed civilians, he claimed.

And never before has the military suffered such a tarnished image because of a handful of officers making the wrong decision.

He said that, as a soldier, he is saddened by this and felt it would take years before the military would be able to regain its honour.

Maj-Gen Chamlong continues to oppose a general amnesty for those involved in the unrest.

"The people did no wrong. They protested peacefully."

He also said the political tensions had not eased sufficiently.

"No one can say whether the violence will erupt again or when it will occur," he said.

Vietnam

Embassy Rejects Allegations of Troops in Cambodia

BK0806150592 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 8—The spokesman for the Vietnamese Embassy in Cambodia has flatly rejected the statement made by Democratic Cambodia chairman at the recent 11th meeting of the Supreme National Council that "the fundamental cause of the Cambodia question is Vietnam's aggression and occupation."

The Democratic Cambodia leader's allegations spread by radio "the Voice of Khmer" [VOK] added that "Vietnamese troops, disguised as civilians or wearing uniforms of a Cambodia faction's armed forces, are, together with Phnom Penh forces, attacking the Democratic Cambodia faction."

The spokesman described these as "blatant fabrications aimed at covering up their current intensified military activities in many areas in Cambodia and obstructing the implementation of the Paris Peace agreement on Cambodia."

Note To UNTAC on Troop Presence Cited

BK0506125892 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] To help the United Nations complete dossiers before the implementation of the second phase of the agreement on cease-fire in Cambodia, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry sent two notes confirming that no Vietnamese troops are left in Cambodia and that Vietnamese military aid to Cambodia has been cut out. The notes added that by the end of 1989, Vietnam has completed the withdrawal of its troops, weapons, military equipment from Cambodia. This has made an important contribution to the signing of the Paris agreement on Cambodia.

Since the signing of the peace accord on Cambodia, Vietnam has consistently implemented the agreement. Now as in the past, Vietnam has never infiltrated its troops and equipment into Cambodia. This fact has been affirmed by Prince Sihanouk himself. The head of the UN office in Cambodia also pointed out that there was no evidence of the Vietnamese military presence in Cambodia.

The second phase of the Paris agreement on Cambodia will begin on 13 June. Vietnam once again committed itself to help implement this important stage of the process for quickly restoring peace and stability for the Cambodian people.

Radio Comments on Current Relations With Japan

BK0406125192 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Japanese-Vietnam relations have developed with positive steps. The most recent event is the visit to Japan by Vietnamese Chairman of National Assembly Le Quang Dao, the first high-ranking delegation [words indistinct] of the Vietnamese National Assembly.

Through his staying in Japan, Mr. Le Quang Dao was received by Japanese emperor and leaders. The Japanese side appreciated the on-going renovation process in Vietnam and development in bilateral ties and cooperation, especially economic relations. This visit contributed to strengthening relations between the two countries, especially between the two parliaments.

In recent years, Japan has become the biggest trade partner of Vietnam. In 1991, bilateral trade turnover increased to $900 million. Japan has invested in several aspects in Vietnam, namely oil and gas exploitation, hotel, aviation, and finance.

However, the cooperation between the two countries is still limited and has not matched the two sides' capacity. Though Japan is the biggest trade partner, it still ranks the ninth among the investors to Vietnam. It is hoped that the relations between the two countries will be promoted, as the Japanese premier put it. It must further enhance the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Japan.

Russian Minister on Trade, Economic Cooperation

BK3005073492 Hanoi VNA in English 0627 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 30—Russian Foreign Economic Relations Minister P. Avel has expressed his country's wish to promote economic and trade relations with Vietnam.

The Russian minister said while receiving Vietnamese ambassador Ho Huan Nghiem on May 28 that Vietnam has long been a traditional, regular customer of Russia, and that the two countries have major potentialities to boost cooperation in in various forms on the basis of equality and mutual benefits, especially direct cooperation betwen production and trading establishments.

During their exchange of views on the cooperation between Vietnam and Russia, Ambassador Ho Nghiem Thuan and Minister P. Avel stressed on the importance of an early signing of a protocol on economic and trade cooperation between the two countries for 1992.

Growing Ties With UK Examined

BK0806125492 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam's recent visit to Britain has marked a turning point in Vietnam-Britain relations. Our commentator has more details in this connection.

This is the first official visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland by a Vietnamese foreign minister since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1973.

This trip has proved that even those countries which were once hostile to Vietnam, like Britain, are changing their attitudes and gradually broadening their relations with Vietnam. In fact, the bilateral Vietnam-Britain relationship has recently changed for the better. The two countries have coordinated closely in solving the question of repatriation and reintegration of Vietnamese refugees in Vietnam.

Economically, several British companies have entered into joint ventures with Vietnam, and this cooperation has yielded initial good results. Last week, a trade mission of the British Overseas Trade Board paid a visit to Vietnam aimed at strengthening business ties between the two nations.

These significant changes have contributed positively to the success of the Vietnamese chief diplomat's visit to Britain. In their contacts with Mr. Cam, the British Government leaders expressed their hope for the further development of the bilateral relationship, first of all, economic ties.

In this connection, the British government has decided to increase its financial contributions to the program of voluntary repatriation of refugees and to the training of Vietnamese personnel in some specific areas, as well as in foreign languages.

Furthermore, Britain has reiterated its continued support for the normalization of relations between Vietnam and international financial organizations.

Vietnam and Britain are expected to sign an agreement on encouragement and protection of investment, avoidance of double taxation, and some other agreements on scientific and technological cooperation.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Kyrgyzstan

BK0506151792 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 5—Vietnam and the Republic of Kyrgyzstan have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

A protocol to this effect was signed in Moscow on June 4 by Vietnamese Ambassador to Russia Ho Huan Nghiem and the authorised representative of Kyrgyzstan to Russia, A. K. Nanaev.

Do Muoi Visits Gia Lai, Dac Lac Provinces

BK0906095192 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 5 June 92

[From the daily press review program]

[Text] Various papers today carry news reports on a working visit to Gia Lai and Dac Lac Provinces by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]. Accompanying the general secretary were comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and head of the party Central Committee Mass Mobilization Department, and many leading cadres and specialists from various sectors and the party Central Committee Office.

In Gia Lai Province, Comrades Do Muoi and Nong Duc Manh visited the E Ly hydroelectric power plant, the E Son Ha water conservancy project, Krong village of Chu Pah district, and Pan village of Chu Le district. In Dac Lac Province, they visited the Chi Dang state farm, the Dac Lac rubber enterprise, and the mulberry plantation of the 11 March state farm.

In Play Cu and Ban Me Thuot cities, Comrades Do Muoi and Nong Duc Manh held a cordial meeting with leading cadres of the party, the administration, mass organizations, and the local people. The General Secretary briefed them on the situation at home and abroad and on domestic and foreign policies of our party and state.

Regarding the implementation of the policy on nationalities, Comrade Do Muoi urged the party committees and the administration of these two provinces to urgently study and carry out socioeconomic development programs for various ethnic groups, especially the Gia-rai minorities in Gia Lai Province and the Ba-na, Mnong, and E-de minorities in Dac Lac Province.

Party Secretariat Convenes Work Conference

BK2905080092 Hanoi VNA in English 0617 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 29—A conference on theoretical work was convened here on May 25-27 by the secretariat of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee [CC].

Among the 230 participants were Dao Duy Tung and Nguyen Duc Binh, Politburo members of the party CC; Nguyen Dinh Tu, secretary of the party CC and head of its commission for science and education; Ha Dang, member of the party CC and head of its Commission for Ideology and Culture; Nguyen Duy Quy, member of the party CC and director of the Institute of Social Sciences.

The conference was also attended by Pham Van Dong, adviser to the party CC, Vo Nguyen Giap, To Huu, Hoang Tung, Tran Quang Huy, Professor Tran Van Giau and other senior theoreticians and researchers.

Thirty-seven addresses at the conference focussed on contents of the resolution of the party Political Bureau on theoretical work in the context of the current situation in the country and abroad such as type theory on socialism, the transitional period to socialism and the main lessons drawn from the process of renovation in Vietnam.

The conference also dealt with the compilation of new curricula and the renewal of the method of teaching social sciences at schools and universities, and renovation of the training of theoretical workers.

Leaders Attend Army Mass Motivation Conference

BK2905094992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 21 May 92

[Station correspondent's report on 21 May all-Army mass motivation conference in Hanoi—portion recorded]

[Summary] On the morning of 21 May, the General Political Department held a conference to review the mass motivation work of units in the North.

"Attending the conference were General Doan Khue, Political Bureau member, deputy secretary of the party Central Committee's Military Commission and defense minister; Vu Oanh, Political Bureau member and chairman of the Central Mass Motivation Council; Le Kha Phieu, party Central Committee member and chief of the General Political Department; Phan Minh Tanh, party Central Committee member and chief of the party Central Committee Department of Mass Motivation; and representatives of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the party Central Committee departments of nationalities and religions, the Vietnam Confederation of Workers, the central committees of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and Women's Union, the Farmers's Association, the Red Cross Society, the Veterans Association, the party Central Committee Office; the delegates of Quang Binh, Quang Ninh, Thanh Hoa and Ha Giang provinces and Hanoi, and the political and mass motivation cadres of units from the 4th Military Region northward."

Lt Gen Le Kha Phieu opened the conference and pointed out the resolutions and requirements of the conference. Then Lt Gen Le Hai, deputy chief of the General Political Department, reported on the results of renovating the party's mass motivation work in intensifying the relationship between the party and the people. "After assessing the results of the mass motivation task of all Army units, the report analyzed in depth the measures and good experiences in organizing, leading, and implementing effectively the task with close coordination between Army units and local authorities." As yet, more than 1,000 Army cadres—665 from the 1st Military Region alone—have participated in building bases in villages and hamlets, in organizing task force units to wipe out illiteracy and superstition, and in training key cadres of grass-roots levels installations in the regions of ethnic minority people. All these fruitful activities have demonstrated that the Army's policy of accelerating the mass motivation work in the new situation is correct.

"Proceeding from the initial achievements and weaknesses in mass motivation work in the past, Lt Gen Le Hai pointed out the main guidelines and tasks for the future.

[Begin Le Hai recording]: "First, we must create vigorous changes in both the knowledge of viewpoints and the organization and implementation of the work so as to build up the integrated strength of all echelons and sectors. All Army units must continue to accelerate the mass motivation work, considering it a political task and the nature, tradition, and function of the Army, and the basic and urgent requirement of the new situation which is aimed at fulfilling the following demands: To strengthen the flesh and blood relationship of solidarity between troops and the people, firmly maintain and develop the revolutionary nature and fine traditions of the Army, enhance the mass viewpoint of troops, make troops truly trust and love the people and vice versa, and, on this basis, to help enhance the people's confidence in the party and the regime. Secondly, we must positively and actively coordinate with all party committee echelons and the local administrations and mass organizations so as to participate in mobilizing the people to build the local movements and comprehensively strong and firm bases, help maintain firm political stability for national construction and defense, and oppose the peaceful evolution plot. Thirdly, we must mobilize the people to effectively carry out the all-people national defense and local military tasks, formulate the people's battle plan for national defense, and build strong and firm armed forces of the people." [end recording]

To satisfactorily implement the mass motivation task in the days ahead, the conferees stressed that leaders and commanders should educate cadres on the need to renovate the party's mass motivation task, thus affirming that "the revolutionary cause of the party and the Army is of the people, by the people, and for the people, and that commanders must operate and concretize the mass motivation task by their orders and directives, whereas the political agencies must provide specific guidance and control and supervise the implementation of the task."

The Army must serve as a firm, strong and reliable support for the party, the administration, and masses in the localities.

Ho Chi Minh City Veterans Association Viewed

BK0806114392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Article by Major General Nguyen Van Sy, member of the Ho Chi Minh City War Veterans Association]

[Summary from poor reception] "Since its emergence in 1990, the Ho Chi Minh City War Veterans Association has strived to meet the earnest aspirations of hundreds of thousands of war veterans in the city who had worked and fought in localities throughout the country. At present, the association has 120,000 members, a moderate figure as compared to the huge number of war veterans in the city. However, the association, with its firm stand in the present situation and in the spirit of Uncle Ho's soldiers as well as its concrete acts—under the leadership of the city party committee, mass organizations, the Fatherland Front committee, and the armed and police forces—has created a combined strength for stabilizing the political situation.

"These Uncle Ho's soldiers, who used to hold guns under their determined-to-win military banner, have now returned to a civilian life against the background of swift, complicated changes in the international situation and numerous difficulties at home.

"However, the association's leadership, with their revolutionary experiences, has striven to strengthen the association's organization and consolidate its activities, thus winning approval from the party and the state. Within three months of its emergence, the city association completed congresses at the grass-roots level and established executive committees from city down to district, precinct, and village levels.

"With their concrete deeds and constructive viewpoints, members of the association have contributed many valuable ideas to the party documents prior to and after the Seventh CPV Congress and to the draft amendments to the constitution. They have also contributed to the task of maintaining national security and defense, implementing the policy on resolving the war consequences, carrying out social activities at flood and typhoon-stricken areas from Son La, Lai Chau Province to Quang Nam-Danang and especially in the Mekong River Delta region when it was seriously hit by a flash flood.

"The association has become a place to absorb the feelings and sentiments expressed by war veterans ranging from guerrilas in the Nam Ky uprising more than 50 years ago to soldiers of the southwestern region who have returned home after fulfilling the international obligation. Many of them have a 55-year old party membership, others have just transferred or been discharged, and some are former members of the commando forces. All have joined the association—young and old, men and women—and all speak the same language and are determined to follow the path chosen by Uncle Ho."

Fiji

Rabuka Says Australia 'Overbearing' in Relations

BK0506110992 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 5 Jun 92

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Fiji's new prime minister, Major General Sitiveni Rabuka, says that Australia is overbearing in its relations with its smaller Pacific island neighbors. In his first interview since taking office, Gen. Rabuka described Australia as a Northern Hemisphere post in the Asia-Pacific region and a country which needed to change its perception of the nations around it. The new prime minister was speaking with Radio Australia's South Pacific correspondent in Suva, Jemima Garrett:

[Begin recording] [Garrett] Gen. Rabuka, the man who staged Fiji's 1987 coups and who is now as a result of last week's election his country's first elected post-coup prime minister, says Australia's relations with Fiji and the Pacific island nations are at a turning point. While he acknowledges the big improvements since the coups, he still believes Australia needs to change its perception of its island neighbors to see them more as equal partners.

[Rabuka] I think they are overbearing. Not only overbearing, but also the fault perhaps of the newly independent states in allowing themselves to be subjugated to the Australian dominance. I think the new wave in the Pacific now is that the new generation of Pacific leaders will reject it, and very soon Australia will really be pushed into a corner where they come to accept that they are the displaced Northern Hemisphere society in the Pacific.

[Garrett] So, how much of a problem is that for Australia, the fact that it can be seen as a bit overbearing in the region?

[Rabuka] I don't think it will give them any problem. Well, all they have to do is to review their policies with respect to this part of the world and the newly independent states of the Pacific.

[Garrett] And how can Australia go about showing that it has changed? What sort of things would Australia have to change, not to be too overbearing?

[Rabuka] Well, we have always said that we prefer trade rather than aid, and development rather than handouts. And I think that the way they should go (?is to) understand the new wave in this region, the new brand of leadership coming up, still trying to shake off these colonial hangovers and the old brand of European domination. And once they begin to understand that, we will go back to some very, very cordial relationship based on mutual understanding and mutual respect.

[Garrett] The only area of Australia's relations not back to normal since the coups is defense cooperation, which is still banned. Australia would like to see its surveillance flights reinstated, but Gen. Rabuka is in no hurry. Although previously (?keen), the new prime minister now says he will not be seeking a review of the ban on defense aid.

[Rabuka] That is the matter for Australia to come up with its [word indistinct] view. We will be (?fair), but I do not want to prompt them into that.

[Garrett] But you would like to see defense aid restored?

[Rabuka] Not necessarily, no.

[Garrett] You can live without it?

[Rabuka] We can live without it.

[Garrett] Perhaps surprisingly, the one area in which Gen. Rabuka has taken immediate action is on improving Fiji's relations with India. The relationship was soured in 1990 by the expulsion of the Indian Embassy for allegedly interfering in Fiji's internal affairs.

[Rabuka] I have had talks with my old chief instructor in Staff College who is now commander of the Indian Army and we are great friends and I have a lot of friends in India, and hopefully some of them might be able to influence the political leaders. They have their changes also in their government. So, I believe things are looking bright.

[Garrett] Although the prime minister has firmer views about Fiji's policy, under his new government he will not be taking a hands-on approach, preferring to concentrate on his own portfolio of home affairs. Most of the work will be done by the new prime minister, Filipe Bole, who also has responsibility for foreign policy. [end recording]

Papua New Guinea

Premier Agrees To Meet Bougainville Rebel Leader

BK0806070292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Papua New Guinea's [PNG] Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu has said any meeting between himself and the Bougainville secessionist leader, Francis Ona, must be based on bringing peace to the island and not on any moves for secession.

Mr. Namaliu said this was his government's condition for a face to face meeting with Mr. Ona, president of the self-styled Bougainville interim government and supreme commander of the revolutionary army. The prime minister said he was prepared for a meeting with Mr. Ona on Bougainville or anywhere in PNG, preferably after the general elections this month.

Mr. Namaliu was responding to a call by the secessionist movement for a meeting between the two leaders.